JWP UPDATE



Mr Hufton's statements seemed almost reasonable in the circumstances; a genuine commitment to minimise upheaval for those affected by the impending job cuts. RMT reps have engaged with LUL in an attempt to flesh out the promises. We quickly established that there were no guarantees at all. They simply weren't genuine. LUL believe the only way to achieve cost savings is to launch an assault on our jobs and our terms and conditions. To do this, they are insisting on a massive displacement programme which will impact on every one of us. Mr Hufton realises the damage that this will do to morale and so has tried to conceal the extent of the disruption by issuing vague reassurances.

Finally, the stations review is complete. This is the process by which all TU's looked at overall planned numbers for each station now, and in the future. This overview has uncovered a shambolic and ill thought out strategy, imposing lone working across 125 stations and cutting to the bone staffing everywhere else.

LU have now admitted that the figure of 953 job cuts was a guesstimate, an arbitrary figure which enables them (along with salary cuts) to make cost savings. Odd then, that they don't seem willing to cut their own wages and have gone even further by wasting millions in recruiting yet more managers. The centurion grade is being expanded from 38 to 97, all with private health care and on up to £75k. Many will have fewer than 20 staff and with depleted reserve cover, have been told they will be covering CSA duties! It seems conspicuous to us that the worlds most complex underground railway can make savings at the sharp end of 4 million passenger journeys a day whilst those at the top suffer no pain whatsoever. In fact, they are multiplying!

RMT and TSSA have again insisted on a strategy for pain free displacement and in line with Mr Hufton's assurances. We are of course ready to talk these issues through, however, if no concrete assurances are forthcoming then further strike action will be inevitable.

