



SFC reps met with London Underground management today to push further on the issues affecting all of us since the crisis hit our stations. We're now operating with a 93% reduction in passenger numbers, dozens of stations closed and with Sunday service now in place, we've a surplus of staff, in some areas double the usual requirement. It's bizarre that with social distancing in place, it's not the passengers we need to be distanced from but our own workmates, yet here we are. Having six or more people book on together in a tiny ops room, or staff crammed into already inadequate mess facilities is dangerous and exactly the opposite of social distancing. Yesterday at London Bridge there were 17 simultaneous book ons! With 25% of station staff isolating, LU have been terrified to do anything that impacts what's left of the service but now accept the problem and realise the obvious way to address it is with shorter shifts. As of today, AMs have been told that, where staffing levels permit, then local arrangements can be put in place to minimise the number of people who need to be on at any one time. This will alleviate the mess room issue but also recognises the effort made by our members in keeping the job running. Initially this will be an ad hoc arrangement, implemented locally and with the input of your reps, but in time will be supported by rosters from scheduling. Temporary rosters will only be implemented after consultation and majority approval but given the fact we have 75% cover for a 7% service, there's no reason not to see a big improvement over current rosters. Should you find your local management team unwilling to play ball and staff continue to be deployed unnecessarily or duties are being duplicated, then make sure your rep is aware and they'll take it up, with the help of SFC if necessary.

Your SFC reps are maintaining a regularly updated live bulletin so you can track the progress of various demands with the company. This can be viewed online at bit.ly/sfclivedemands. Progress so far includes securing agreements on:

- Voluntary process for off-group working
- Paid mileage for anyone driving to work
- Free NCP parking on production of staff pass
- No Covid related absence to be counted for disciplinary action
- No Covid related absence to be counted for extension to probation
- Countdown paused for staff in redeployment unit
- Full pay for any ABM cleaning staff who have to self-isolate

RMT continues to press for the suspension of case conferences, LDIs, fact findings and other non essential activity, with an announcement to be made next week by management.

Where local managers, whether CSMs or Area Managers, are pressuring members - e.g., insisting they attend work rather than self-isolate; threatening to dock pay; threatening to dock annual leave; etc. See your local rep who will challenge this on your behalf and progress your case beyond the AM if necessary. We are continuing to press for an agreement that anyone in a vulnerable category (e.g., with an underlying health condition), but who has not been identified for shielding by the NHS, and anyone who is a carer for a vulnerable dependent, will also suffer no detriment if they self-isolate at home. Such an agreement has already been reached on Network Rail, and there is no reason it shouldn't be extended to Underground workers.

We are also working with our Tier 2 (Health and Safety Council) comrades to push for additional measures to minimise risk at a "shop floor" level. These demands include:

- Powering down POMs
- Opening WAGs
- Ensure safe distancing on stations by rotating staff, working from the control room wherever possible, etc.

RMT are demanding that LU issue directives to all local managers to ensure that these measures are implemented. We will support any group of members who takes the decision to implement them locally. Remember that Section 44 of the 1996 Employment Rights Act gives all workers the right to refuse to work, and withdraw to a place of safety, if we believe we or others are being placed in "serious and imminent danger".

Level Two reps are available via email and on the phone to support local reps, who are the frontline of the union in the workplace. Each SFC rep has responsibility for supporting the local reps in particular branches.

Paul Schindler - Central Line West and RCI reps - 07730 032665
 Marie Harrington - Piccadilly and District West and East Ham - 07814 740308
 Glen Hart - Jubilee South and Central Line East 07809 471289
 Norman Thomson - Finsbury Park and Hammersmith & City - 07853 288184
 Mac McKenna - Camden 3 and Morden & Oval - 07801 071363
 Daniel Randall - Bakerloo and Neasden - 07961 040618