

LUL refuse to withdraw 'Lone Working' procedure

THE STRIKE IS ON

Train staff and detrainment staff:

do not book on for duty from shifts commencing

22:00 hrs from Thursday 19th of July to 21:59 hrs Friday 20th of July

Brothers and Sisters,

At a meeting with Gerry Duffy and co on Tuesday July 17th **it was clear that senior management did not appreciate the safety risks involved for trains and station staff working from Queens Park to Harrow.** It was also made plain that management's attitude to the lone working issue is being driven by their plans for taking over the running of the Line to Watford. **Their intention is that lone working allows them precedence to cut back on staffing for all stations and detrainment locations when they have overall control of the infrastructure on the main-line section.**

We can not allow this to happen. The RMT's position is clear: as in the deep tunnel tube section there should be a minimum staffing requirement. For detrainment stations this should be two members of staff. Management refused.

Our fantastic 95% majority in favour on strike action against this unfair imposition of 'lone working' shows the strength of feeling of stations and train staff.

Why does this affect train staff? As our sister union ASLEF highlighted in a joint bulletin which they have recently redistributed

stated: "what this means is that with fewer staff on platforms the ones that remain are at greater risk of assault. As a train operator you have less staff to call on to help should you get into any difficulties. Should there only be one member of staff on the platform YOU will be required to detrain the first two cars. At all times of the day and night at the lovely locations of Queens Park, Willesdon Junction and Harrow & Wealdstone and at some time in the future Stonebridge Park." It goes on to say "There is going to be a push by management for you to carry out the detrainment as quickly as possible. There will possibly be an increase in the number of SPADS, there will possibly be an increase in the number of safety related incidents, train operators will find themselves in 'more' contact with passengers never having received assault awareness training."

PICKET LINE DUTIES AND EVENING SOCIAL

Much hard work has been done by many members to resist management's imposition of this unsafe practice. All that now remains is to organise the picket lines, man (and woman) the barricades and

arrange the evening social.

To maximise attendance on picket lines, all members will have travel expenses reimbursed and breakfast, lunch and refreshments will be provided throughout the day. We hope to have a carnival atmosphere on the picket lines and to convince the (non) travelling public that our dispute is just and fair.

All members should make every effort to attend picket lines on Friday the 20th. Contact Brian Munro on 07947 316259 about times etc.

To thank all members for their support there will be an evening social with substantial funds behind the bar for après strike beverages (time and venue to be confirmed). The Regional Council and many RMT London Underground Branches have been very generous with donations and fully back our dispute. Members from our sister Union ASLEF who back our action will also be more than welcome at the evening social.

For further information, Contact Brian Munro.

The RMT will always put safety first.