

SAVE OUR RAILWAYS

TICKET OFFICE STAFF

Rally and lobby of parliament, October 25
from 12:30 Methodist Central Hall Westminster, London SW1H 9NH



Sir Roy McNulty has reported to the government on how the cost of Britain's railways might be reduced. He wants to protect multi-million pound dividends to private shareholders and instead attacks you, the rail worker. McNulty proposes:

Massive job losses : Pay freezes : Reduced standards of safe working

TIME TO FIGHT BACK - JOIN THE RALLY!



Ticket Office Staff and McNulty

This is the biggest attack on rail workers' jobs, pay and conditions since privatisation. It threatens everything you and your union have fought for and won.

McNulty wants to SLASH your conditions of service:

- the removal of "limitations on work schedules" which have been introduced for your safety and that of the travelling public, as well as to ensure a work-life balance
- a reduction in the amount of overtime available but increasing the maximum amount of time a person can work in a day
- the removal of enhancements associated with weekend working;
- reducing the length of and payment for meal and refreshment breaks, and changing the times at which they can be taken;
- reducing equipment preparation time
- reducing the time currently available to staff to rest between shifts;
- Benchmarking your pay against those in outside industries where there are no unions to defend pay and conditions

McNulty wants these inferior conditions for new entrants creating a two-tier workforce.

McNulty says you are unproductive!

He claims that rail workers should lose their jobs and those who remain have pay freezes and inferior conditions because he says there has been a 50 per cent increase in staff costs since privatisation. This claim is completely misleading.

McNulty ignores the fact that due to economic growth over most of the period of the study passenger journeys have increased by 59 per cent, passenger kms by 50 per cent and passenger revenues per member of staff by 56 per cent. In fact, staff productivity has more than offset increases in staff costs.

McNulty recommends that train companies should consider:

- the closure of all ticket offices in 27 per cent of stations on the network, or 51 per cent of those stations with ticket offices (Category E – small staffed stations which in 2003-04 had an average daily passenger total of 700 which due to increased ridership would have grown since then)
- reducing the opening hours at Category D (medium staffed stations which in 2003-04 had an average daily passenger total of 2,500 which due to increased ridership would have grown since then station ticket offices), a further 12 per cent of all ticket offices, or 22 per cent of those stations which currently have ticket offices
- increasing the availability of ticket vending machines (TVMs) at larger stations, enabling a reduction in the number of ticket office windows
- using price discounts to encourage greater use of technology which does not require a member of staff, and
- increasing penalty fares

However, McNulty highlights a number of preconditions for such changes including the installation of modern TVMs; selling tickets newsagents and convenience stores; the provision of internet portals for online purchases; the extension of print-at-home and mobile ticketing; and the amendment or removal by the DfT of the obligations in the Ticketing and Settlement Agreement (TSA) relating to ticket office opening hours.

The TSA is the primary means through which your union fights cuts to ticket offices or their opening times.

The government will produce a Rail White Paper this autumn. If it decides to implement the McNulty report, it will be a disaster for rail workers and for passengers.

RMT is fighting back with a huge Save Our Railways Rally and lobby of parliament, starting in Methodist Central Hall, Storey's Gate, Westminster London SW1H 9NH from 12:30 on October 25. Get the date in your diary NOW.

Visit www.rmt.org.uk/mcnulty for more information including: -

- Bob Crow Interview on McNulty
- RMT Submission to McNulty
- RMT Press releases
- RMT Parliamentary Group: debates and motions



www.rmt.org.uk