



Bakerloo news



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LU must reverse job cuts!

Since “Fit for the Future”, we’ve seen nearly 1,000 frontline jobs disappear from our stations.

On the Bakerloo Line, our busiest station, Oxford Circus, has seen significant cuts, particularly during the evening peak and towards close of traffic. Other stations are running on overtime. Stations at the north end of the line continue to be single staffed.

The new responsibilities imposed on us, whereby we’re all doing work previously done by the grade above us, for no extra money, mean fewer people are essentially doing more work for less.

This situation is entirely unsustainable, and means a new dispute with LU over the consequences of “Fit for the Future” is now inevitable. RMT will demand that cuts to staffing levels are reversed to at least pre-“Fit for the Future” levels. To win that demand will take significant action, but sustained strikes could force central government to restore the



Above: LU's strategy revealed

funding it cut.

Over the coming weeks, RMT activists will be visiting stations across the network to discuss a potential new dispute with members. It's vital members feel ownership over what the union does, and contribute to the discussion about what demands the union should place on the company.

Come along to your branch meetings and liaise with your rep to discuss your ideas for how our new dispute and campaign should shape up.

Staff our depots!

Staffing levels are also unworkably low on train side.

Management seem to believe they can run depots with minimum or minus numbers on a long-term basis. Cuts mean that drivers are routinely hammered with full turns, or running for the other depot regularly when they are spare.

The intrusive tactic of ringing drivers while off duty to change their shifts is becoming more and more common.

These practises need to stop. LU must staff its depots properly.

Bakerloo Line trains management are failing to maintain “buffers”, commonly utilised at most depots.

These involve a 10% excess staffing level to maintain coverage at a workable level throughout sickness, absence, secondments, and annual leave.

Oxo jobs fight

RMT, along with our sister union TSSA, has been pushing to increase staffing levels at Oxford Circus.

Despite the company accepting “in principle” a union-backed case for additional late-turn CSA jobs, LU has refused to fund the increase. This means just four CSAs, one CSS, and one CSM will continue to cover all the work at close-of-traffic.

Management has imposed a unilateral change to the CSA2 roster, to make one of the CSA2 duties a “dead late”. Reps have opposed this, arguing it is an inadequate solution which disadvantages the CSA2 grade.

The matter has been referred from Level One (local level) to Level Two, where it will be discussed at Company Council.

GET ACTIVE IN YOUR BRANCH

Your branch meets on the **FIRST TUESDAY** of every month, 16.00, upstairs at The Royal Exchange, 26 Sale Place, W2 1PU (Edgware Road H&C).

LDIs: our warning to management



Management on both trains and stations are handing out 26-week warnings in attendance LDIs even when there are clear mitigating circumstances.

Members are then waiting almost as long as their warnings for an appeal to be heard, or for a decision to be given after an appeal, and in some cases the warning will have expired.

Staff have been penalised for broken wrists, long-standing medical conditions, caring for disabled children, the illness and death of close family members and having to attend court or meetings with solicitors.

In some cases members have effectively been denied their right to representation by management

apparently deliberately scheduling LDIs when members' chosen reps are unavailable.

On station side, CSMs seem unfamiliar with the attendance policy and have ignored or misapplied aspects of it.

Your reps on stations and trains will challenge the issuing of unnecessary warnings and strongly encourages members to lodge appeals.

If the practise does not stop, we will consider escalating the issue to the next level of negotiation and, if necessary, taking further action.

Keep up with all the news from around the London Transport Region at rmtlondoncalling.org.uk



All grades, all fights, one union.

Drivers: stand firm

Issues being raised at Level One meetings at Bakerloo train depots continue to be unresolved.

Individual drivers are putting in grievances against depot management about their consistent breaches of policy, which we believe are intended to cause the maximum hardship to drivers.

These practises are having a demoralising effect on drivers. Bakerloo reps are trying to resolve issues at local level, but find ourselves increasingly forced to escalate them. Our brothers and sisters on the Piccadilly and Hammersmith and City Lines have recent an ongoing disputes with management, the latter having just voted for strikes. This option is on the table for us if management do not change.

Drivers must stand firm: no more one-sided "favours" for management until the issues are addressed and improved. Unity is strength.

Oblique images: action needed

Over 18 months ago, after extensive problems with "oblique images" (drivers being unable to see the whole of the PTI) with the new SSR trains, senior RMT safety reps pointed out to LU that there were potentially similar problems on other lines.

Despite the usual dragging of feet, LU finally conceded the RMT were

right.

So, many surveys and meetings later, and with passengers seriously injured at the PTI, what have Bakerloo management done to mitigate against this problem? Sweet FA.

Reps on the line have had enough of "jam tomorrow": we are demanding action now.

New fight for cleaners

RMT is relaunching its campaigning amongst cleaners.

As *Bakerloo News* went to press, activists were preparing for the monthly Cleaning Grades Committee meeting (first Monday of the month, 15:00, at Unity House, NW1 1JD), where plans were due to be drawn up for renewed activity to fight for:

- £10/hour
- Direct employment
- Full sick pay

- Staff passes for cleaners

These demands are part of RMT's overall campaign to bring all cleaning work on LU back in house. The union is directly pressuring Mayor Khan over this demand, and plans further demonstrations at both City Hall and at Interserve's HQ.

Contact RMT London Transport Region Cleaning Grades Secretary Richard Crane on 07943 583830 for more information.

Take safety seriously

LU has issued new guidance for drivers on how to respond to "active shooter" situations on our trains, which it says should be issued "face to face".

Bakerloo management decided to give drivers printed versions, which we were told to read in our own time!

Rest assured that the RMT will not play fast and loose with our members' safety. We will continue to put pressure on management to ensure our members on both trains and stations are fully briefed on what to do should the unthinkable ever arise.

Bakerloo News is a monthly newsletter from the Bakerloo branch of the RMT union. To submit a story for *Bakerloo News*, or to contact the branch, please email bakerlooline@rmt.org.uk, or ring Branch Secretary Jim McDaid on 07917 131692