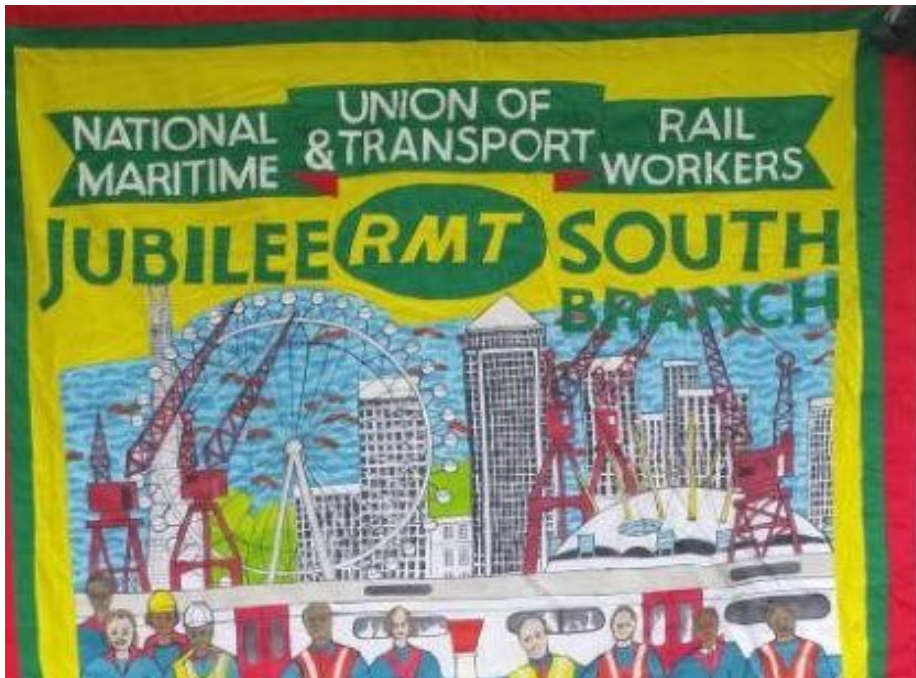




May 2020 - read more at [www.rmtlondoncalling.org.uk/jubileesouth](http://www.rmtlondoncalling.org.uk/jubileesouth)

## ‘Covid-19’ timetable rejected once again

*shockingly, no account was made for drivers social distancing requirement*



**Update: 30th of April**

**The proposed Covid-19 timetables have once again been delayed due to RMT resistance.**

Train drivers' union RMT rejected the proposed 'Covid-19' schedules for a second time at Wembley Park, North Greenwich and Stratford depots.

This rejection was repeated at depots across London Underground, where RMT represents over 1700 drivers.

Your RMT reps had been tasked to look at the proposed 'Covid-19' schedules to try to find ways to make them compliant with social distancing needs.

However, management have refused to formally rewrite the schedules based on our suggestions, or to make any alterations to the timetable at all, making this an impossible task.

The RMT along with our sister trade union met with management at ACAS

once again and made our rejection of the schedules and timetable, on safety grounds, absolutely clear.

Subsequently management conceded that their planned timetable would have to be further delayed. They also acknowledged that the schedules were drawn up with no consideration of the social distancing needs of the drivers running the trains!

RMT have also consistently argued that H&S reps should be involved in scrutinising the sheets locally. We are the only union arguing for this, and LU has now said they will look again at this essential demand.

This dispute continues, and the RMT are leading the fight by preparing to ballot, should management make it necessary.

- **Get the latest information at - [www.rmtlondoncalling.org.uk/coronavirus](http://www.rmtlondoncalling.org.uk/coronavirus)**

### **AM refuses to follow social distancing shift work agreement**

At our recent branch meeting we unanimously passed a motion calling for the RMT National Executive Committee to enter into a dispute following an AM's refusal to look at shifts to ensure social distancing guidelines could be adhered to.

The motion explains:

*"We note that our negotiators on Station Functional Council have pursued an agreement that station staff will be adequately protected with regards to ensuring social distancing as per Governments advice.*

*One of the important actions was that a Level 1 meeting with reps should take place as soon as reasonably practical to explore the possibility... whatever was required to ensure staff were protected at work.*

*Whilst positive conversations have taken place at Jubilee Central the same can not be said for the rest of Jubilee South Branch Area."*

The motion goes on to state:

*"The Waterloo AM, who refuses to attend Level 1 meetings, has flatly refused to adhere to a level 1 agreed action. This is contravention of a direct instruction from Director of Customer Service, Head of Customer"*

Subsequently the motion calls for a dispute:

*"We ask that the NEC declare a dispute with LUL on these issues and prepare a ballot of all station members on the affected groups."*

To read the full motion check out the RMT London Calling website.

**Jubilee South branch is now WEEKLY. Join us each Wednesday, usually 1600 for a virtual meeting. Ask your rep or branch secretary Eamonn Lynch for details - 07578769943 / [eamonnlynchrmt@outlook.com](mailto:eamonnlynchrmt@outlook.com)**

# Jubilee South branch news

## Furloughed cleaners face 20% pay cut

Cleaning contractor ABM has announced it intends to use the government's "Job Retention Scheme" to "furlough" (place on leave) some cleaners. Under this scheme, the government subsidises 80% of workers' wages, with employers having the option to top up the remaining 20%. ABM has informed RMT it will not be doing this, meaning any cleaner who is furloughed faces a 20% pay cut.

This is a scandalous attack on the livelihoods of some of the worst-paid workers on the Tube. While TfL/LU will be topping up the 20% for any of its own direct employees who are furloughed, furloughed cleaners, who are as much part of the permanent, core LU workforce as drivers or station staff, face a pay cut.

The announcement came days after TfL confirmed in writing to RMT that it did "not deem it appropriate" to provide cleaners with staff travel passes. The message is clear: "Thanks for risking your lives to keep our Tube system clean and safe, but don't expect the same benefits and conditions as the other LU workers you work alongside every day."

The situation could also create a serious public health risk, as cleaners who are symptomatic or unwell may return to work sooner than it's safe, in order to avoid being furloughed and having their pay cut. This places not only them, but all the other staff and passengers they interact with, at risk.

This inequality and discrimination against an overwhelmingly migrant and BAME workforce shames London. RMT will be taking this fight to

ABM, TfL/LU, and the Mayor to demand full pay for furloughed cleaners, and equality between outsourced and directly employed staff.

Ultimately the solution is for TfL/LU to end the scandal of outsourcing altogether, and employ cleaners and other outsourced workers directly.

- This article is taken from Bakerloo News, You can read it and much more on the RMT London Calling website.

### Sign the petition

A petition has been set up calling on London Mayor Sadiq Khan to guarantee the remaining 20% pay of all furloughed ABM staff and call on Mayor Khan to immediately extend staff travel rights to ABM cleaners.

- [Sign here: chng.it/9yV5h8NCG](https://chng.it/9yV5h8NCG)

### Ramping up of London Underground services

The RMT has announced that all negotiations on the Tube related to the ramping up of services are to be dealt with at Company Council level.

An RMT decision dated 29th of April stated:

*This Union is unconvinced that there is any basis at this time for a safe escalation of services and that there will have to be an industry-wide agreement of principles for a graduated increasing services that does not increase danger and risk of virus transmission for our members, passengers or our communities.*

*Until such an agreement is reached and endorsed by the NEC, the Gen-*

*eral Secretary is instructed to inform RMT union officers and representatives that they are not to engage in any discussions with companies on this issue at any level.*

### Stations coronavirus FAQ

A regularly updated 'frequently asked questions' briefing is available online to hopefully answer all your questions on Coronavirus and your rights at work.

- [Check out this invaluable doc at rmtlondoncalling.org.uk/cor-faq.](https://rmtlondoncalling.org.uk/cor-faq)

### If it isn't safe, don't do it

Due to the current pandemic the UK government have issued Guidance around social distancing at work. The RMT'S position is based on our interpretation of advice provided from Public Health England, Public Health Wales and Health Protection Scotland. The Government's strategy is to reduce the spread of the disease by preventing it being passed from individual to individual. The most effective way of ensuring this is done is by limiting contact between individuals unless absolutely necessary. Everyone; employers, workers and individuals have a responsibility to behave appropriately to prevent the spread of the virus.

Further to this RMT GS Mick Cash has written to members about the legal right not to be placed in serious or imminent danger:

*Members should exercise their legal rights not to place themselves in serious or imminent danger if their social distancing cannot be guaranteed. I can assure you that your union will do everything possible to support any member exercising their legal rights not to be put in danger."*

Please speak to your H&S rep with any concerns.

**Jubilee South branch meeting / Join our WEEKLY branch meeting. During the current crisis we are holding meetings each Wednesday, usually at 4pm. These are held online and all members are welcome to join in. You can contact Branch Organiser Eamonn Lynch on 07578769943 or [eamonnlynchrmt@outlook.com](mailto:eamonnlynchrmt@outlook.com) for further information. Come and get involved, from home!**