

## Stop Casualisation & De-Staffing

# VOTE YES!

London Underground's attacks on its workforce will affect us right here on the Central Line.

### ticket office closures

Several Central line ticket offices are scheduled to close - Barkingside, Buckhurst Hill, Debden, Fairlop, Perivale, Ruislip Gardens, South Ruislip, West Acton and West Ruislip. Most of the rest will have their window opening times cut.

That means staff displaced, increased workload for those remaining, and more frustrated and angry passengers.

### mobile supervisors

If LUL gets away with using 'mobile supervisors' on the ex-Silverlink stations, then it will only be a matter of time before they impose them on groups like Greenford, Barkingside and Buckhurst Hill. In the open sections at either end of the Central Line, a single supervisor would cover a group of stations.

That will mean supervisor job cuts and loss of promotion opportunities. It will also mean that drivers and service control staff who face an incident at a station - eg. one-under, security alert, points failure - may find that there is no station supervisor on site to help them. Management already leave these stations unsupervised too often - now they want to make the absence of a station supervisor official!

### agency, security and other non-LUL staff

LUL is using agency staff and security guards on the ex-Silverlink stations as a precursor to using them elsewhere. The company has already mentioned using agency staff at special events. That could mean the Notting Hill Carnival, or the Lord Mayor's Show, or any other event that takes place near Central Line stations. Security staff have already been used to guard refurb work, for example at Epping. LUL's plan is to use them to replace station supervisors at night. At the new Heathrow Terminal 5, LUL operational work, such as tipping out trains, will be done by airport staff.

These measures mean fewer LUL jobs. They also mean LUL work being done by people who have worse pay and conditions than us, are not trained to the same standards and are not railway workers. When drivers or service control need station staff help, you may not get the same level of assistance as you would get from LUL workmates.



### Your Next RMT Branch Meetings

#### **Stratford no.1 branch:**

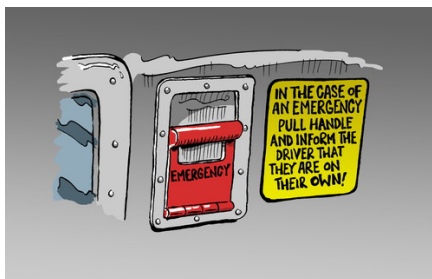
- **Wednesday 5th March**, 18:00-19:30, The George, opposite Wanstead station - special branch meeting to discuss resolutions.
- **Thursday 13th March**, 17:00-19:15, ex-Services club, Leytonstone - regular monthly branch meeting (note new day and venue).

#### **Central Line West branch:**

- **Thursday 6th March**, 16:00-18:00, The Mitre, Craven Terrace, Lancaster Gate

*At all these meetings, you can find out more about the dispute and pick up leaflets. On all these dates, we will also be out campaigning around Central Line workplaces during the day. Please contact us (details overleaf) for more information.*

## why you should vote yes



"The new East London Line is recruiting drivers at £1k pa less than we earn. TfL is planning to attack the wages and conditions of all grades; all grades need to start the fightback now."

Vaughan Thomas, RMT drivers' rep, White City / Trains Council

"This is not about drivers striking for station staff or station staff striking for drivers. It is about all of us uniting to defend ourselves. We are all affected and we should all vote Yes."

Janine Booth, RMT rep, Stations + Revenue Council

"Why should RCIs vote Yes? Can you imagine whilst checking trains being at risk of violent assault ...You get to the next station only to find there are no staff and the ticket office is shut? Oh, and the mobile supervisor is three stations away! That's why."

Ross Marshall, RMT health + safety rep, BCV



## CONTACTS

### BRANCH OFFICERS

- Central Line West branch secretary - **Peter Sheridan**, 07962-186169
- Central Line West branch chair - **Vaughan Thomas**, 07889-093942
- Stratford no.1 branch secretary - **Unjum Mirza**, 07753-979637
- Stratford no.1 branch chair - **Bill O'Dowd**, 07956-573197

### STATIONS & REVENUE (FUNCTIONAL) COUNCIL

- **Janine Booth**, 07748-760261
- **Jon Abdullah**, 07810-153880

### TRAINS (FUNCTIONAL) COUNCIL

- **Bill O'Dowd**
- **Vaughan Thomas**  
- phone numbers above

### STATIONS & REVENUE HEALTH & SAFETY COUNCIL

- **Unjum Mirza**  
- phone number above
- **Vikram Parmar**, 07834-117378

### SERVICE CONTROL (FUNCTIONAL) COUNCIL

- **Peter Heyes**, 07894-604246

Other workers in TfL are also heading for industrial action. RMT aims to co-ordinate the action.

- Metronet workers are opposing re-privatisation to Bombardier, and demanding travel passes and pensions on a par with LUL.
- Cleaners are sick of being promised a 'living wage' but never actually getting it.
- Service control staff face a 'restructuring' which means job losses and unfair treatment for many workers.

**All these people work alongside us on the Central Line.**

## emergency plans

LUL has changed emergency plans to take out the numbers of specific grades. This will mean Central Line stations being forced to open without enough staff on duty.

## refusal to work on safety grounds

LUL plans to change the 'refusal to work on safety grounds' procedure to insist that you carry on working until a manager agrees that it is unsafe. Even though we still have the legal right to refuse, this is a serious weakening of our ability to use that right in practice.

Last year, Central Line drivers refused to drive trains after the shoe gear fell off a train causing a near-derailment. Under LUL's new procedure, you would have been expected to carry on driving!

## external recruitment

Many Central Line staff know from bitter experience that the promotion system is chaos. Yet management claim that they have so few suitable internal applicants that they need to recruit from outside LUL.

This not only blocks your promotion chances - it could potentially put people with no railway experience in critical safety roles that affect us all.

## lone working

Whenever staff work alone, we are at risk. Yet staff on the open sections of the Central Line are regularly expected to work alone. If LUL destaffs stations, drivers could also find themselves working alone dealing with incidents. Your union is determined to stop this.