

## London Ambulance Service Unison Branch Committee Meeting

11<sup>th</sup> January 2011 1030hrs – Conference Room LAS HQ

**Present:**

- Eric Roberts - Branch Secretary
- Eddie Brand – Chair
- Sarah Hardy – Vice Chair
- George Achilles – Treasurer
- Mark Lione – Membership Officer
- Bill Leaning – East Central Sector Health & Safety
- Pete Hannell – Equalities & Pensions Officer
- Rob Sydney – Communications Officer
- Paul O'Neill – Minute Secretary
- Dave Smith – North East Sector
- Brian Robinson – East Central Sector
- Rob Matthews – North West Sector
- Hannah Curror – West Sector
- Gary Edwards – West Sector
- Dave Lamey – South West Sector

**Apologies:**

Ian Lee	Richard Chow
Mark Belkin	Michael Apps
Julie Shirt	Phil Thompson
Clare Hodgson	Tim Stephens
Andrea Gibbs	

<b>Introductions and Welcome</b>	<b>Action</b>
The Committee were welcomed to the first meeting of the new year. Apologies for the meeting paperwork – this was down to photocopier problems at HQ.	
<b>Previous Minutes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Minutes from Committee Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2010 <u>agreed</u> as a true record.</li> </ul>	Agreed
<b>Matters arising</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- None</li> </ul>	
<b>Branch Secretary's report (ER)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Legal report and running total of compensation distributed. Compensation totalling £4500.00p has been awarded to LAS Unison branch members since the last meeting. Running total of compensation from March 2010 is £71,938.45p. <u>£1,630,067.06p</u> of compensation has been obtained by the branch on behalf of its members since 1999. One legal form has been processed since the last meeting.</li> <li>- Unison Health Care Service Group Conference 2011. Sarah Hardy and Mark Lione will be branch delegates for the conference taking place on 4<sup>th</sup> -6<sup>th</sup> April.</li> <li>- Regional Council AGM and 2011 Regional Council delegates.</li> <li>- Retirement request submitted on behalf of a member from Hillingdon. Unfortunately the committee are unable to agree to the request as the member does not meet one of the eligibility criteria. He has not been a branch member for 15 years (current branch practice); this is lower than the 20 years that Unison stipulates.</li> </ul>	Rejected
<b>continues</b>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sponsorship request received from Mark Maslin form HART. He is running the London Marathon to raise money for MERU the Chief Executive official charity. The committee agreed to sponsorship, £200 proposed – to be brought to the next meeting before being agreed.</li> <li>- NHS Incremental freeze – The proposal by the government to freeze staff incremental pay has been rejected by Unison Health Service Group Executive on 10<sup>th</sup> January. 12 Members sit on the Unison Ambulance Sector committee, 8 voted to reject – 1 backed the offer - 3 abstained (NI, Wales &amp; Scotland) as proposal only applies to England. ER reported that it was a very intense meeting. The proposal is to freeze yearly spine point pay increments for NHS staff on AfC pay bands 1-6. ER will report back any further developments.</li> <li>- NEC Elections – The branch agreed the nomination of Eric Roberts for election to the NEC Healthcare Male Seat, alongside the other nominees: Ann Moses – Female Seat Christine Sullivan – Female Seat James Anthony – General Seat Conroy Lawrence – GLR Male Seat Kim Silver – GLR Female Seat Doris Sutton – GLR Female Seat Irene Stacey – GLR Low Paid Female Seat Mark Clifford – Black Members Male Seat</li> <li>- The branch is struggling for space at HQ in terms of the ability to store materials and supplies required to run the branch. ER proposed the renting of a space within a local storage unit at a cost of approximately £1500 per annum – <u>Agreed</u> by committee</li> <li>- ECP's within the trust have been given notice that their role is at risk. Staff 1 to 1 meetings have begun, they have been given 3 months to decide on their redeployment. ER will arrange a meeting with the ECP group. He is confident that none will lose employment. The committee discussed issues around ECP's returning to core rota's.</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: right;">Agreed</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Agreed</p>
<p><b>Partnership Forum/Constitution (ER)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No report from the Partnership Forum.</li> <li>- The Rest Break review negotiations are ongoing.</li> </ul> <p><b>Foundation Trust Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No report.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Branch Officer Reports:-</b></p> <p><b>Communication (RS)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Eric's Blog is now over 6 months old has over 200 hits per week. You can view the blog at <a href="http://www.ericblog.lasunison.com">www.ericblog.lasunison.com</a></li> <li>- The Nwas Unison Branch is going to have an "online" AGM alongside their more regular meeting. Members of the LAS branch (ER, EB, and RS) are attending the meeting to investigate the possibility of adopting it as well.</li> <li>- The branch website has received 144,660 unique visitors in the last 12 months which equates to 396 users a day.</li> <li>- Supports the Unison March for Public Services on 26th March – All members are encouraged to attend – the branch will posting updates on Twitter live from the march as events unfold.</li> <li>- Branch newsletter to be planned for February 2011.</li> <li>- The committee thanked RS.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Retired Members (MA)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No report.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Health and Safety (WL)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Concerns over engagement with the Safety &amp; Risk department over the Violence and Aggression seminar.</li> <li>- ECA phones are not being issued to new staff and old phones are no longer being replaced by IM&amp;T if lost or stolen.</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: right;">EB to deal</p> <p style="text-align: right;">EB to deal</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Public Order Group – No evidence that a risk assessment has been undertaken. Also who has undertaken their training?</li> <li>- A memo has been issued to staff by the Performance Improvement Manager in the West Sector stating they are to run on “blue lights and sirens” to incomplete/uncategorised calls received on their MDT.</li> <li>- MDT training &amp; familiarisation.</li> </ul>	<p>EB to deal</p> <p>EB to deal</p>
<p><b>Membership (ML)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- New members applied to join the Branch – <u>Agreed</u> by committee.</li> <li>- Could senior reps please encourage local reps to update member’s personal/contact/workplace details if known to be incorrect?</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Treasurer (GA)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- As a result of the recent audit, any claims for travel cost reimbursement must be submitted with a receipt or ticket. If not then no payment will be made.</li> <li>- All cheques need to be cashed promptly to maintain up to date branch accounts.</li> <li>- The committee debated the Branch Retirement Grant. It is to cover the cost of a retirement function and in future claimants will have to submit receipts in order claim the grant.</li> <li>- Payment of auditors was discussed.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>PTS (GE)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- New rotas started on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> January.</li> <li>- Presentations have been delivered during the tender for 10 new PTS contracts.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Welfare (AG)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No report.</li> </ul>	

<p><b>EOC (RC)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No report.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Equalities (PH)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A fundamental review of the Managing Attendance Policy has been requested to ensure fairness.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Education (MB)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No report.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Labour Link</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No report.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Pensions (PH)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No report.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Regional Organiser (PT)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No report.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Staff Council (EB)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Minutes not yet published.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Senior Sector/Area Representatives Reports</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>North East</b> – 3 Suspensions 1 Disciplinary 0 Capability. Whipps Cross rota still not agreed</li> <li>- <b>East Central</b> – 0 Suspensions 0 Disciplinary. Rotas now implemented. Area meeting may clash with next branch meeting, high failure rate by Student Paramedics at Gateway 3.</li> <li>- <b>West</b> – 0 Suspensions 0 Capability. MAP to Capability has increased.</li> <li>- <b>Central</b> – No Report</li> <li>- <b>North West</b> – 2 Suspensions 2 Capability. St John’s Wood rota expected to be</li> </ul>	

<p>implemented soon – all other rotas implemented. 118 (1 in 7) staff are currently on MAP, A&amp;E Support career progression, Waiting for exact figures on St John Ambulance resources that are being used by the LAS on emergency calls.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>South West</b> – 1 Suspension. ECP meeting, issues around MAP.</li></ul>	
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<p><b>AOB</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- ER advises that all station/workplace representative elections run simultaneously.</li></ul>	
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<p><b>Date of Next Meeting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- 15<sup>th</sup> February 2010 1030hrs at LAS HQ Conference Room</li></ul>	
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