

## London Ambulance Service Unison Branch Committee Meeting

9<sup>th</sup> June 2011 1030hrs – Fielden House London Bridge St SE1

**Present:**

- Eric Roberts - Branch Secretary
- Eddie Brand – Branch Chair
- Sarah Hardy – Branch Vice Chair
- Phil Thompson - Regional Organiser
- George Achilles – Branch Treasurer
- Andrea Gibbs – Branch Welfare Officer
- Mark Lione – Branch Membership Officer
- Pete Hannell – Equalities Co-ordinator/Pensions officer
- Rob Sydney – Branch Communications Officer
- Mark Belkin – Branch Education Officer
- Ian Lee – Branch Health and Safety Officer
- Michael Apps – Branch Retired Members Officer
- Jason Anderson – Unison Labour Link
- Paul O'Neill – Minute Secretary
- Dave Smith – North East Sector
- Julie Shirt – North East Sector
- Brian Robinson – East Central Sector
- Clare Hodgson – East Central Sector
- Rob Matthews – North West Sector
- Katherine Angus – North West Sector
- Gary Edwards – West Sector
- Dave Lamey – South West Sector

**Apologies:**

- Tim Stephens
- Richard Chow
- Hannah Curror

<b>Introductions and Welcome</b>	<b>Action</b>
EB welcomed Clare Hodgson back to the Branch following her maternity leave and introduced Katherine Angus on the North West Sector Female seat and Jason Anderson our new Labour Link Officer.	
<b>Previous Minutes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Minutes from the previous meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> May agreed as a true record.</li> </ul>	Agreed
<b>Matters arising</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Page 2, Paragraph 5 of Branch Secretary's report – Although the Branch would not be officially supporting or sponsoring the Mongolia Ambulance Rally, it was agreed to sponsor each Unison member that is taking part £100 for expenses etc.</li> </ul>	Agreed/GA
<b>Branch Secretary's report (ER)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Legal report and running total of compensation distributed. Compensation totalling £8,500.00p has been awarded to LAS Unison branch members since the last meeting. Running total of compensation from March 2011 is £13,000.00p <u>£1,844,331.81p</u> of compensation has been obtained by the branch on behalf of its members since March 1999. Nine legal forms have been processed since the last meeting.</li> </ul>	

<p><b>Branch Secretary's report continued</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Correspondence on the Final Management Rest Break Review Consultation proposals.</li> <li>- Regional training day for Pensions Contacts &amp; Champions. 4<sup>th</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> and 11 July.</li> <li>- Staff Council minutes from 13/12/10 and OPF 28/3/11</li> <li>- Retirement function requests received on behalf of John Boyaram PTS Manager at Becontree and Alan Taunton Team Leader at City &amp; Hackney. Both meet the criteria required. Agreed by the committee.</li> <li>- Re-affiliation to Trade Union Friends of Searchlight agreed at an affiliation rate of £50.</li> <li>- ER thanked all those who supported him during his re-election to the National Executive Committee.</li> </ul>	<p>Agreed/GA GA</p>
<p><b>Partnership Forum/Constitution (ER)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- We are slowly moving over to the new H&amp;S constitution but there have been many obstacles.</li> <li>- All staff side H&amp;S representatives required to have attended relevant training. This may require current H&amp;S reps to be refreshed/ retrained. 5 seats to be filled by fully trained and up to date reps in order to represent the Unison branch on the Corporate Health &amp; Safety Group. Nominations will be made at next Branch Committee Meeting.</li> <li>- OPF – Rest Breaks discussion has been difficult, the subject will be taken to the Joint Secretaries next week to discuss further.</li> </ul> <p><b>Foundation Trust Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No update. ER believes that the application is still due to be made in the autumn. ER has not attended any meeting regarding FT recently.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Branch Officer Reports:-</b></p> <p><b>Communication (RS)</b> <b>Verbal Report Including:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bulletin distributed regarding members registering with the Unison website allowing them to update their personal details. Up to date contact details will be helpful if Unison decides to ballot members on industrial action in the future.</li> <li>- Unable to use the Branch Twitter account on service computers as it is blocked by IM&amp;T.</li> <li>- The committee thanked RS.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Retired Members (MA)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No general report.</li> <li>- Two new retired members have joined.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Health and Safety (WL)</b> <b>Verbal Report Including:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Issues trialling the mechanical carry chair as a specific vehicle fit is required. A dedicated vehicle is being sought.</li> <li>- Airwave and vehicle issues.</li> <li>- Use of non LAS vehicles/equipment when VAS jointly attending with LAS crews to emergency calls.</li> <li>- Infection control – Currently spend £500,000 on blankets.</li> <li>- HSE update.</li> <li>- First minor incident involving the Stryker trolley bed, 2 years since its introduction.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Membership (ML)</b> <b>Verbal report Including:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Data cleansing the membership list and updating where necessary. ML reiterated the importance of maintaining an up to date members list.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Treasurer (GA)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No report.</li> </ul>	

<p><b>PTS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No report.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Welfare (AG)</b>  <b>Verbal Report Including:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Welfare grants and rules surrounding them.</li> <li>- Donation request of a raffle prize towards the Unison Welfare Fair being held at St Ann's Hospital Tottenham. Agreed to buy hamper.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>EOC (RC)</b>  <b>Verbal Report Including:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Command Point implementation failed and after reverting to paper and pen EOC have gone back on to CTAK. Date of re implementation not yet decided. The branch sympathised with EOC working staff during this stressful time.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Equalities (PH)</b>  <b>Verbal Report Including:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Close to finishing protected study time policy and paramedic mentoring policy.</li> <li>- Statement of Duties to Patients may have an equality impact.</li> <li>- Disabled members and carers policy.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Education (MB)</b>  Verbal Report Including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Only 6 of the 16 current H&amp;S Reps are available to attend our planned in house course, this is not enough to run the course. IL to canvas H&amp;S reps at the meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2011. If there are not enough new reps to run a course then will consider running a refresher course.</li> </ul>	IL
<p><b>Labour Link</b>  <b>Verbal Report Including:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Need to filter down Pension Champion/Contact role to staff to encourage uptake. Training and full support will be given to those taking on this important role.</li> <li>- Strike days planned separately.</li> <li>- The Labour Party is upping the campaign to save London NHS.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Pensions (PH)</b>  <b>Verbal Report Including:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Richard Chow, Jason Anderson and Peter Hannell are among Pensions Champions for the branch.</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>- No report.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Senior Sector/Area Representatives Reports</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>North East</b> – 0 Suspensions 1 Disciplinary 1 Capability. Increase in hearings at Hannibal House due to SP's failing elements of their Paramedic course.</li> <li>- <b>East Central</b> – 0 Suspensions 0 Disciplinary 1 Capability.</li> <li>- <b>West</b> – 0 Suspensions 0 Disciplinary 1 Capability.</li> <li>- <b>Central</b> – 1 Suspension 1 Capability 1 Disciplinary. IPM issues but has been assured by Area management and ADO that it will not be used as a disciplinary tool.</li> <li>- <b>North West</b> – 1 Suspensions 0 Capability 0 Disciplinary. PH asks that we share the</li> </ul>	

increased workload around regarding Hannibal House hearings with Student Paramedics. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>South West</b> – 0 Suspensions 0 Capability 0 Disciplinary.</li></ul>	
<b>AOB</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- None.</li></ul>	
<b>Date of Next Meeting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- To be confirmed. ER to email dates.</li></ul>	