



London Ambulance Unison Branch Committee Meeting

17th May 2017 1400hrs – Conference Room, LAS HQ, Waterloo, SE1

- Present:**
- Eddie Brand – Branch Secretary
 - Tim Stephens – Chair
 - Phil Thompson – Unison Regional Organiser
 - Sarah Hardy – Vice Chair
 - George Achilles – Treasurer
 - Steve Johnston – Membership Officer/South West Sector
 - Mark Lione – Private Membership (Seconded to Unison)
 - Mark Belkin – Education Officer
 - Pete Hannell – North West Sector
 - Michael Apps – Retired Members Officer
 - Jason Anderson – Unison Labour Link
 - Paul O’Neill – Minute Secretary
 - Julie Cunnane (nee Shirt) – North East Sector
 - Paul Ray – North East Sector
 - Brian Robinson – East Central Sector
 - Kate Goodson – East Central Sector
 - Paul Chiddington – West Sector
 - Marie Randall – South West Sector
 - Claudette McNaughton - EOC
 - Zafar Sardar – EOC
 - Samad Billoo – EOC

- Apologies:**
- Ian Lee
 - Bob Buck
 - Rob Matthews
 - Marcus Davis
 - Christine Tanner
 - Rob Sydney

Introductions and apologies	Action
TS welcomed the committee and noted the above apologies.	
Previous Minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minutes from the previous meeting on 13th April 2017 <u>agreed</u> as a true record. - EB thanked CT for producing the minutes so promptly. 	
Matters arising <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - None. 	

<p>Branch Secretary's report (EB)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Legal report and running total of compensation distributed. Compensation won on behalf of our members is closing in on the £3million mark. - EB noted the special tribute to Eric Roberts in the current Ambulance Today magazine. The feature contains contributions and memories from Eric's family, friends and colleagues. - London Regional Health training day 6th October 2017. Those wishing to attend please give your name to EB. - NQP fast tracking – Letter received from Alan Lofthouse. - Branch Retirement Grant – Rob Sydney submitted (via email) possible options and the branch hopes to move forward with this matter in the near future. 	
<p>Branch Officer Reports: -</p> <p>Communication (RS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No report. 	
<p>Retired Members (MA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - One new member Paul Jeffrey. - Mailout to members including: - Unison Campaigning, NPCGLR April Info bulletin, There for You newsletter, NPC Campaign issue # 119. 	
<p>Health and Safety (IL)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Written report distributed. - New A&E ambulance – delivery has been delayed. Hope to have first few vehicles at Fulham in June 2017. - Ramped vehicle – Unfortunately the LAS Safety and Risk Dept. have decided that they cannot make a decision on the risks involved when balancing a two-wheeled chair whilst walking backwards up a ramp/vehicle slope. They have asked for an ergonomist to risk access the ramped vehicles. - Manger Elk – There appears to have been an increase in the number of frontline vehicles without a Manger Elk. This has been raised as a concern – IL to update at next meeting. - Bariatric vehicle – Still waiting on the Executive Management Team to make a decision on the recommendations made by the Bariatric Group. IL believed it was on the agenda at the EMT meeting in February. - Manual handling training – Despite repeated requests for manual handling training the service have been unable to give a firm date for inclusion on the 2017 CSR courses. Unfortunately, we are now in a position where there are not enough qualified trainers to deliver manual handling training. 	
<p>Membership (SJ)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Membership has increased again in April 2017. Good numbers of fulltime and retired members. - SJ will distribute membership lists to sector reps in order to audit and update members work place locations, grade and home addresses if possible. - Membership report completed and available. - EB commended SJ on his work so far. <p>Private members (ML)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Membership has plateaued this month. We still have a high number of Branch members working in the private sector. Private membership has increased since ML took on this role. - Falck have made redundancies at their Bow site with 14 call taking roles being relocated to Wiltshire. - Confident of achieving a recognition agreement with the RNO Hospital/G4S – ML to meet with their Director of HR. 	

<p>Treasurer (GA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It was proposed that Tim Stephens be added as a signatory for the Branch bank account. This was <u>agreed</u> by the committee. - GA requested that all claims to be made on the new version of the Branch expenses claim form. 	
<p>Welfare/There for You (CT)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - School uniform grants available for low paid members. A one-off payment of £120 is available with the application deadline being 21st July 2017. Forms can be downloaded from unison.org.uk/thereforyou 	
<p>Equalities (SB)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No Report. 	
<p>Education (MB)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introductory reps planned, MB will be facilitating one of them. - Reminder to send all education course forms to MB. - List of upcoming Unison courses distributed. 	
<p>Labour Link (JA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Action plan meetings following the recent local elections. - Due to the upcoming General Election on 8th June things are quiet on the Labour Link front and restrictions due to purdah. - Webpage on lasunison.com has been updated. - Information sheet available for distribution. - The Branch discussed the issues surrounding purdah and how they would possibly affect branch communications in the run up to the General Election. 	
<p>Regional Organiser (PT)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fighting fund role – Some complications have arisen and a decision has to be made on continuing to fund the role currently undertaken by Mark Lione by organising within the private ambulance sector. Funding from the Branch would be 50% with an application to the fighting fund for the remaining 50%. The application for this would need to be submitted this week. The committee discussed the problems that could arise if the role is cut in the future. PH spoke on the need to future proof the role and that it is abhorrent that companies seek to profit out of someone's ill-health. The Branch <u>agreed</u> to fund 50% of the role and agreed to apply to the fighting fund. 	
<p>Pensions (PH)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No Report. <p>Fleet (BB)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No report. 	

<p>Staff Council/OPF (EB)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minutes from Staff Council held on 9th May distributed. - Rest breaks – ongoing, waiting for management to produce a first draft policy. - Holiday pay & overtime – possibly implemented from June 2017. Waiting for update from HR. - EMT4 pay – We have put in a request to remove the cap for EMT4 staff in Band 5 to enable progression up to the top of the band. - CTLs – Role to officially revaluated after a request from LAS UNISON - PH spoke on career progression for EAC/EMT staff and issues with the allocated spaces for the LAS Academy. Possible that a total of only 36 staff will enter the Academy this year including 18 on the second cohort in November 2017. - Next OPF 6th June. 	
<p>Senior Sector/Area Representatives Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - North East – Rota review at Tottenham station has now been agreed. Two station elections still taking place - Whipps Cross and Ilford. Delays with the Romford rota review. There may be a trial taking place whereby A&E resources will be kept within North Central CCG boundaries - ZS stated this pilot was still at an early development stage. - East Central – Waiting for AGM to be held. Ongoing SI investigations. - West – Congratulations to Paul Chiddington on being elected as Senior Sector rep. All stations apart from Fulham have Unison workplace representatives. - Central – Deptford election still ongoing. Main line and MRU rota change at Deptford. Rota change at Oval in the summer. - North West – Positive outcome regarding the rota reviews at Pinner and Camden. Station elections have concluded with Barnet electing a new rep. PH thanked Ellie Mitchell for her help in her time as a station rep and former branch committee member. Fallout from Paramedic re-banding with NQP1s losing lines/secondments - South West – Apart from Coulsdon all other station elections completed. Hoping to hold AGM within the next few weeks. - EOC – Changes to dispatch model. Assisting with ongoing disciplinary cases. - EOC H&S – Issues with disabled facilities at Bow HQ/EOC – Safety and Risk Dept. dealing. 	
<p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Affiliation to Fact Service from the Labour Research Dept. – TS to confirm if affiliation is still in place. - PH stated that the 1% pay rise we will receive in our May pay packets will be cancelled out by the 1% increase in our National Insurance contributions. - NQP1&2 – Discussed the situation regarding fast tracking maybe a minimum of 12 months up to 24 months using evidence based competencies. Nothing has been agreed yet, we are still waiting for national guidance. - NQP banding appeals. 	TS
<p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 13th June 2017 - 2pm at Waterloo HQ 	