



London Ambulance Unison Branch Committee Meeting

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

Present: Eddie Brand – Branch Secretary
Tim Stephens – Chair
Sarah Hardy – Vice Chair
George Achilles - Treasurer
Ian Lee – Health & Safety Officer
Christine Tanner – Welfare Officer
Rob Sydney – Communications Officer
Mark Lione – Private Membership (Seconded to Unison)
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
Brian Robinson – East Central Sector
Paul Chiddington – West Sector
Marie Randall – South West Sector
Zafar Sardar – EOC
Samad Billoo – EOC

Apologies: Steve Johnson
Phil Thompson
Rob Matthews
Marcus Davis
Paul Ray

Introductions and apologies	Action
EB welcomed the committee and introduced Paul Chiddington who will temporarily take up the vacant West Sector male seat. The committee wished Vice Chair Sarah Hardy a very Happy Birthday.	
Previous Minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none">- ML – Only some former X9 staff have gone on to work with PAS- Minutes from the previous meeting on 16th January 2017 <u>agreed</u> as a true record.	
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. £21,455.00p of compensation has been awarded to LAS Unison branch members since November 2016. - Running total of compensation from March 2016 is £74,149.16p. - £2,758,696.76p of compensation has been obtained by the branch on behalf of its members since March 1999. Five legal forms have been processed since November 2016. - Returning officers report on the 2017 London Ambulance Service Unison Branch elections. Written report distributed. - Regional Council AGM 2017 election results distributed. - Unison Greater London LGBT training and organising day – 24th February 2017. - GLR LGBT group invite to march at Pride 2017. - Women's training and networking day 10th March 2017 at Unison Centre NW1. - Ambulance Occupational working group. - Draft Principles of newly qualified Paramedic Consolidation of Learning Programme distributed. Possible that it will be finalised by June 2017 – PH spoke on the effects to both cohorts of apprentice Paramedics. - Band 6 for Paramedics has now been consistency checked. LAS are currently holding back from committing to process back pay in March due to funding problems. - Retirement function grant application received on behalf of Terence Healy – The committee discussed the minutiae of when retirement is retirement – To be discussed further 	<p>SJ</p>
<p>Branch Officer Reports: -</p> <p>Communication (RS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Launch of new branch blog is now set up. RS has composed a short piece to launch it and this will be followed by a piece written by Eddie Brand. Contributions from committee members are more than welcome. Eric's blog has been archived and is still fully accessible on lasunison.com 	
<p>Retired Members (MA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Following mail out to retired members – NPC campaign bulletin 117, NPC GLR information bulletin for February 2017 and the GLRRM Staying Active in Unison. - Sad news received that two retired members Mick Martin and Melvin Price have passed away. Our condolences go to their families. 	
<p>Health and Safety (IL)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New A&E ambulance vehicle risk assessment – Wilker are the new coach builder with some minor changes to the actual vehicle its self. Concerns over the new tail lift mainly the end flap and trolley stop design. 500mm reach to close the rear door over the tail lift not accounted for despite the ergonomist report being sent to Wilker. - Spit Kit now in vehicle prep hubs. - Ramped vehicle trial. - Infection control and prevention – mattress cover possibly available in March. - Bariatric vehicle – hopefully some news on 1st March. PH stated bariatric training may be included on CSR 17.1 however the LAS have no in house specialist in this area. - 20000 new blankets have been ordered. - Manual handling – 8th March - Stress - Private property insurance – being discussed for 15 months. Hopefully staff will be covered from April 2017. 	

<p>Membership (TS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No report. <p>Private members (ML)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Private membership now just shy of 300 – Averaging one case per week on average. - Recruitment days at Croydon and St Georges. ML spoke on the history of trade union issues at St Georges where private ambulance staff come under the St Georges branch rather than the LAS. - Medical Services have been taken over by Falck. Calls received from some members following redundancies that have been made. - 	
<p>Treasurer (GA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - End of year accounts completed and agreed in principal. Waiting for internal audit to be completed this week. 	
<p>PTS & NETS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This standing item to be taken of agenda. NETS will be reported on by senior sector reps. 	
<p>Welfare (CT)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No report. 	
<p>Equalities (PH)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - After seven good years, this area of the LAS has now been left in a chaotic state. Many vulnerable staff have been protected however the current leadership team are not committing to equalities and wellbeing. Capability hearings have been halted whilst staff undergo physio, counselling etc. enabling a return to work and proving to be a tremendous success in supporting staff. - PH will continue to support SB in this important area. - The committee thanked PH for all his hard work and commitment to his role as Equalities Officer. 	
<p>Education (MB)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No report. 	
<p>Labour Link (JA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Written report distributed. - Unionstogether.org.uk campaign - Trade Union Act political fund review - Consultation questions - Labour Party partnership with Ecotricity to raise funds. - Update from Fiona Twycross who is Labour Link's contact at the London Assembly. 	
<p>Pensions (PH)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Approach to ambulance staff working longer by the previous coalition government – waiting for a response from the current administration. <p>Fleet (BB)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No report. 	
<p>Regional Organiser (PT)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No report. 	

<p>Staff Council/OPF (EB)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - OPF minutes to be distributed includes Paramedic bags, trust mileage and restricted duty Paramedics deployed to the CHUB for short periods of time. 	
<p>Senior Sector/Area Representatives Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - North East – Rota review at Tottenham station. CSRs no running at Barking site. More discretion is being shown at formal MAP hearings. - East Central – Rota review at West Ham station. - West – PC is returning to Isleworth group after spending time working within staff support. Will be meeting reps from the West sector soon. Currently one suspension. - Central – Rota review at Oval- capacity issue as Rotherhithe Station closed – awaiting response from ADO. These estate issues were raised two years ago. - North West – Nominations done, all stewards meeting 25th May. Camden and Pinner rota reviews. Paul Stewart will be covering Mark Belkin while Mark covers for PH (annual leave). LAS academy – 18 places available is wholly inadequate and PH has requested the number for applications made. Used to have 80-90 spaces available for the previous in house paramedic course compared to 18-36 with the academy. May have issues with TEACs who fail initial conversion course leading up to April. PH will update when a reply from Paul Bates is received. ? to added as a standing item - South West – No report. - EOC – Command point NYE failure now being investigated by NHS England. Upgrade to system next week. Firstly, at Waterloo then Bow. Pen and paper whilst this completes. Four more system take downs planned. Recruitment at new call takers course. - EOC H&S – Now have EOC H&S seat on corporate committee. 	
<p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Retirement function grant request received on behalf of Anthony Ledger. Joined in 1988 meets the criteria laid down by the branch <u>agreed</u> by the Committee. - Ambulance seminar 12-14th May names to EB if you wish to attend – limited spaces. - Eric Roberts T-Shirts – hope to have these to sell at conference to raise money for MIND Blue Light programme as Eric's chosen charity in his presidential year. Agreed by committee pending reply from the charity. - On behalf of Rob Matthews PH said that he thanked the branch for its support during his time on the NW male seat. He has stood down and PH will take over in the interim. - Conference forms to GA by the next branch meeting. - Reminder that the AGM will be at 5pm on 17th March at Unison Centre. - 	GA
<p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 17th March – Unison Centre NW1 @ 2pm 	