



Branch Briefing: 8

TUC MARCH AND RALLY, SATURDAY 18TH JUNE 2022, LONDON – ITS NEXT WEEK!

UNISON Supporting the TUC “BRITAIN NEEDS A PAY RISE” march and rally in London.

The march in London is NEXT WEEK - JUST AFTER OUR ANNUAL DELEGATE CONFERENCE. Enclosed below are some important resources, including videos, as to why we are marching and what to expect. The TUC aim to have a well organised, inclusive event, with full access for disabled members, that will involve a 1.7 mile march from Portland Square (beginning at 12 noon) to Parliament Square for a Rally (1.00pm to 2.30pm).

THE UNISON BLOCK WILL BE AT THE FRONT OF THE MARCH SO MAKE YOUR WAY TO PORTLAND PLACE AND LOOK FOR THE TWO BALLOONS.

- Our Senior Stewards will be at the meet up point from 8am on 18 June – Portland Place in front of the BBC. Our “A Team” consists of 16 UNISON staff members who will act as stewards.
- Our area will be marked out with a “magic rope” at the front of the march held by 6 UNISON Stewards. Both sides of Portland Place will be closed to traffic from 10am.
- There will be 2 helium spheres – held by UNISON Stewards.
- There will be 300 placards available.
- There will be a walking banner for the front of our section.
- There will be 1000 whistles to give out.
- There will be 500 flags available.
- Hashtags for social media are (at the moment) **#unisontheunion** and **#DemandBetter**
- There will be a professional photographer recording the event for us.
- First aid at the march is the responsibility of the TUC – we will need to get hold of a TUC steward in the event of needing a first aider.

IMPORTANT POINTS TO NOTE

See the TUC report below, also in the box resources on why we are marching including the viral “thank the government” video which has had two million hits on TIK-TOK.

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GETTING THERE BY TRAIN

The TUC have reported better news about trains. The engineering works affecting the West coast main line should not affect departure times, but there may be slight delays in getting there.

Avanti have said the timetable for the 18th June is now confirmed so the times you are now seeing will be the times that the trains will be departing. The alternative route just looks to have added a few minutes on to the usual duration - most trains taking about 2 hours 10 mins - 2 hours 20 mins.

PLEASE BE SURE TO CHECK THIS WHEN YOU BOOK. THIS INFORMATION IS WHAT WE HAVE AT THE TIME OF WRITING.

<https://www.nationalrail.co.uk/>

COACHES

Especially note that if you have booked a coach, there is free parking in London organised by the TUC, but you must let them know to be able to access this. If you have not yet booked a coach, direct members to the six on the TUC website going from Bolton, Liverpool, Manchester, Stockport, Lancaster and Wigan.

People's Assembly, with whom UNISON North West have worked over many years, are organising a coach from Manchester. Details as follows:

Facebook event: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1208756169860573>

Eventbrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/coach-to-tuc-demo-on-18-june-tickets-353625933687>

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IF YOU ARE GOING DIRECTLY FROM UNISON CONFERENCE

It does appear there are trains from Brighton to London Bridge or London Victoria, but please check trains north after that.

UNISON National Office, Euston Road, London, NW1 2AY, is open from 7.00am on Saturday 18th June 2022 for people to leave luggage if you have been to Conference and plan to attend the march.

REMEMBER IF YOU HAVE COACHES GOING, WE DON'T KNOW ABOUT, OR HAVE PEOPLE WHO WANT TO GO BY COACH, REMEMBER, LET US KNOW at g.breeze@unison.co.uk

VISUAL INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO CIRCULATE TO BUILD FOR THE MARCH

<https://www.tuc.org.uk/DemandBetter>

“[thank the government](#)” clip – 1.5m views on TikTok and counting!

[Christina McAnea: Lets send a strong message on 18 June - YouTube](#)

[TUC national demonstration | Events | UNISON National](#)

[Take the first step – our march and demo guide for first timers | Magazine \(unison.org.uk\)](#)

[New video](#), [Martin Lewis video](#), P&O video

Great to see content from unions coming through too - [Unison video](#), [Unite video](#)

GS videos - the [CWU's Dave Ward](#), [NASUWT's Patrick Roache](#), [Usdaw's Paddy Lillis](#), [GMB's Gary Smith](#)

<https://twitter.com/TheTUC/status/1517850784678825984> FILM

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TUC COMMENTARY

TRANSPORT

We're up to 75 coaches booked! Also 5 trains from around the country.

- [Submit details of coach bookings](#) so we can put them [on our site](#) and tell you about parking
- YOU HAVE TO BOOK PARKING – don't just turn up! If you haven't had an email please [get in touch](#)
- FREE coach parking at the O2 - easily accessible for the march start and end locations via the Jubilee line
- If you want central London pick-up and drop-offs, please arrange direct with your coach company.

TRAIN STATION LEAFLETING

- Train station leafleting happening on 8 June - [details and how to join in](#)
 - Outside London – so far: Watford, Plymouth, Cardiff, Windsor, Newton Abbot, Hull, Liverpool, Southampton, Salford, Margate
 - London – so far: Woolwich Arsenal, Manor House, Lewisham, TCR
- [Volunteer to lead leafleting](#) at a station near you.

ALL THE INFORMATION

- [On the site](#)
- Materials in the [google drive](#) (no password required)
- Physical leaflets and posters are available FOR FREE – email [Paul](#).

MARCH AND FORM-UP

- UNISON WILL BE AT THE HEAD OF THE MARCH.
- INFLATABLES: you need to do a risk assessment and have trained balloon handlers. Please identify a suitable location near to the form-up to inflate your balloons and a suitable location near to the rally to deflate them
- All the details [about accessibility](#) for disabled marchers.

PROMO

- Hope you liked our [“thank the government”](#) clip – 1.5m views on TikTok and counting!
- We've bought a load of billboards in London and are finalising print ads (TfL rejected our ads for train and tube stations).

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MORE INFORMATION

- If you have been forwarded this email, please sign up to receive info about the march and rally directly: <https://forms.office.com/r/amCY8BYQif>.

ACCESSIBILITY

- All the details [about accessibility](#) for disabled marchers are on our site – please encourage members to email us with any questions.

BUILD UP EVENTS – LOCAL EVENTS NEAR YOU TO BUILD FOR THE RALLY AND THE COST OF LIVING CAMPAIGN BEYOND

Blackpool - Wednesday 15 June 2022

When: Wednesday 15 June 2022, 6pm for a 7pm start

Where: The Winter Gardens, 97 Church Street, Blackpool FY1 1HL

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