

TUC Yorkshire and the Humber Regional Conference 2023

**Friday 17 – Sun 19 March in Sheffield (venue
information varies – see events)**

Fringe meeting: “Future-proof your workplace: Green Bargaining and Worker-led Transitions”

**At Showroom-Workstation Creative Lounge, 15 Paternoster Row,
Sheffield, S1 2BX, from 3.15pm to 4.45pm, Fri 17 March. Open to all –
ULRs, reps, activists, conference delegates.**

Climate change presents different challenges in different sectors and workplaces – this session will explore some of those and how unions can support green bargaining and worker-led transitions. We'll focus especially on Local Authorities, where GJA research has shown how much needs to be done to involve workers in the positive changes needed to deliver low carbon housing and transport; and British Gas, where reps want to get training so that workers can be involved in new technologies and opportunities with Centrica. We'll introduce two TUC projects that aim to support workers in these sectors, and a training course that will be run for reps and activists to understand the transition in their workplace. Plus, we hope to hear from a visitor from the German unions about experience there.

- Case study of how Local Authorities can work with unions to build green skills - **Graham Petersen, Greener Jobs Alliance.**
- TUC Y&H Green Bargaining project that will support union bargaining in local authorities – **Jenny Patient, TUC Just Transition Y&H**
- Case study of British Gas and the needs of reps in Centrica/British Gas – **Jake O'Malley, GMB**
- Training course run with Spanish unions to support worker-led transitions, and bringing it to the UK - **Nora Rätzzel, Umea University (by video link)**
- TUC Worker-led Transitions project – **Anna Markova, TUC**
- To be confirmed – response from **DGB/FES visitor** – the view from Germany.

This is the first session of our weekend conference and will be followed at the same venue at 5pm by a reception and fringe event looking at the work of Sheffield Needs a Pay Rise with young workers in hospitality (also open to all).

Panel discussion: “Why climate change matters to trade unions”

At Sheffield Town Hall, as part of the main conference – open to delegates, invited guests and registered visitors.

2.15pm-3.15pm on Saturday 18 March.

Our panel celebrates the fact that climate change matters to trade unions across diverse sectors, not just in energy generation and heavy industry. We will hear from speakers about the importance of retrofitting 19 million homes to greatly reduce their energy use, and the role local authorities and trade unions can play in this. We'll hear about the skills needed for the climate transition, and how young people and older workers can receive the training they need. We'll hear about how climate change and new skills link to the concerns of a City Councillor and the communities she serves. The panel will discuss why all these factors matter to trade unions and will answer your questions from the floor.

Abtisam Mohamed, Sheffield City Councillor and Labour PPC for Sheffield Central

Nikki Davis, Leeds College of Building - training for green jobs and skills

Linda Clarke, Westminster University - how unions can work with councils on retrofit

Jenny Patient, Just Transition Officer, TUC - to chair