

TUC / LO Summer Patrol Exchange Programme application form

Background

Since 2017, the TUC has linked up with our sister centre LO-Norway to exchange and develop learning opportunities.

From 2019 that exchange has focused on the LO-Norway Summer Patrol project. Every summer for over thirty years, LO-Norway has sent young trade union activists into workplaces to speak to young people about their terms and conditions and the importance of unions.

The aim of the Norwegian Summer Patrol is to sign up as many young people as possible to a trade union and build the movement, provide young activists with organising skills so they can go on to take positions in the union and meet young people from across the union movement.

In the UK, we have been running similar projects in Yorkshire & the Humber and Wales and will soon set these up in our Northern and South West regions. The UK project has focused on building organising skills of UK activists, data collection in workplaces to understand young workers issues, informing young workers of their employment rights and sharing information on unions rather than direct recruitment.

This year LO-Norway have invited a UK trade union delegation to go to Norway to participate in their annual Summer Patrol 2024. This is an incredible opportunity for young trade union members to learn how the project works in Norway, make new international connections and apply what they learn to help develop our UK Patrol and organising activities across the UK.

This exchange programme provides a one-off learning opportunity to develop young union activists organising practice and recruitment skills. We are proud of the successes of this programme and think it offers huge value in developing the next generation of trades unionists.

The exchange

The exchange has space for 4-7 young activists to visit Norway from Northern region, South West region, Yorkshire and Humber and Wales. Activists applying should meet their unions definition of young.

Travel dates:

- Sunday 23 June 2024 - Depart (Arrive in Bergen or Oslo)
- Monday 24 – Thursday 27 June 2024 - LO Summer Patrol
- Friday 28 June 2024 - Return (Depart from Bergen or Oslo)

Patrol content

The patrol includes driving and walking to different workplaces and having one to one conversations with young people who work there with the permission of their employer. The patrols involve long days (0900 – 1700 approximately) with some walking but please do let us know if you need reasonable adjustments as these can be accommodated.

As this programme is also to support the development of TUC patrols, we would expect applicants to help develop the TUC patrol in their region on return from Norway.

Cost and logistics

If you would like to attend as a delegate, your union will need to cover your travel costs and any additional costs associated with travel to and from Norway as needed. Accommodation and some subsistence in Norway will be covered by the LO-Norway. Unions would therefore need to cover approximately:

- Return Flight from UK to Bergen or Oslo
- Travel to and from UK airport
- Overnight accommodation (if needed ahead of departure)
- Some subsistence
- If participants have visa costs, unions will need to cover these.

Once participants have been selected, we will confirm which airport in Norway to travel to. Please do not book any travel until the TUC has confirmed you have been selected for the programme.

TUC Code of conduct

We want to make sure everyone has a safe and enjoyable trip. The TUC code of conduct will apply to the visit:

The TUC is committed to organising activities at which everyone can participate in an inclusive, respectful and safe environment. The TUC has zero tolerance for any type of harassment, including sexual harassment. Aggressive, offensive, intimidatory, disrespectful or unacceptable behaviour or comments will not be tolerated. This supports the commitment set out in the TUC's rules to promote equality for all and to eliminate all forms of harassment, including sexual harassment, prejudice and unfair discrimination.

The TUC ask that unions make participants aware of any of their own risk assessment measures for travelling abroad and all delegates should be provided with information on unions reporting systems if participants need to report any incidences of harassment or inappropriate behaviour.

Participants are attending in a union capacity and should therefore be familiar with their union's rules.

Application process

If you are interested in applying to take part in the exchange, please complete the [application form](#) by end of the day Friday 3 May.

You must make sure that you have your unions permission to attend and fund your place before you apply. If you need the TUC to write to your union to seek this, please email one of the following:

- Wales – Chloe Rees on crees@tuc.org.uk
- South West – Sadie Fulton sfulton@tuc.org.uk
- Northern and Yorkshire and Humber – Helena Hammock hhammock@tuc.org.uk

Please contact one of the above if you have any questions on the trip or application process.

Please do not book anything until you have had confirmation from the TUC that you have been selected for the exchange and we have confirmed arrival times.

The application form is [here](#).