

Emergency Motions

Emergency motion 1: DWP Cuts

Conference notes continued unprecedented attacks driven by an unpopular right-wing Government ideologically opposed to the public sector.

Announcements on 26 January confirmed 130 DWP sites have been earmarked for closure under the governments estates rationalisation programme. Many are local job centres, impacting the most vulnerable members of society.

A commitment given that no job centre would be closed unless another location was reachable within 20 minutes on public transport has already been breached no fewer than 20 times.

According to DWP statistics, 12% of 18-25-year-olds and 52% of young disabled people are unemployed. Furthermore, 18-25-year-olds make up the highest proportion of single parent benefit claimants. For those young people, additional travel on public transport will be problematic.

In addition to the detrimental impact on claimants, office closure programmes demonstrate the Government is set on destroying secure, reasonably paid jobs. The impact on local communities, society and the economy cannot be understated. It's clear that these closures will negatively impact on young workers.

Conference calls on the TUC to:

- Support the PCS local and national campaigns opposing office closures.
- Support the PCS political campaigns by lobbying MPs
- Produce literature highlighting the importance of access to public services

PCS

Emergency motion 2: McDonalds Social Media Policy

After recent revelations came to light over the past week of McDonalds unjust and anti-democratic policy in regards to its workers making personal comments via social media. Young members of the BFAWU would like to submit this motion. We feel that this motion is of the utmost importance to our members who are organising in difficult circumstances

within the fast food industry we would ask that it is accepted as an emergency motion for this conference to consider.

Conference calls on the TUC to work with the BFAWU in calling on McDonalds to remove clause 3. E. in its social media policy which states:

“No reference should be made to any affiliation with any political organisation”

Conference believes that this clause in McDonald’s social media policy is an attempt to silence workers from discussing their trade union activity on social media.

Conference calls for its immediate withdrawal.

BFAWU

Emergency motion 3 Westminster Attack

Conference would like to express its solidarity with all those affected by the recent attack in Westminster.

This was not just an attack upon innocent civilians but an attack upon our democracy. However, we resolve that in the face of those who seek to divide us, the trade union movement will always call for unity and solidarity. The spirit of trade unionism extends beyond the workplace. As trade unionists we believe that everyone should have the freedom to go about their lives free from violence and terror, no matter who the perpetrator is.

Conference would also like to thank the emergency services and all those who helped during and after the incident. They showed both courage and compassion for their fellow human beings in the face of terror. The emergency services showed the highest levels of professionalism and efficiency in protecting the lives of those in the area whilst trying to save the victims of these attacks. As the media spotlight moves away, doctors, nurses, hospital staff, the security services and many others will continue to work hard dealing with the aftermath of this tragedy. Conference thanks them for the work they have done and will continue to do.

GMB