

London Ambulance Service Unison Branch Committee Meeting

13th February 2007 1030hrs – Conference Room LAS HQ

Present: Eric Roberts - Branch Secretary
Eddie Brand - Chair
George Achilles – Treasurer
Andrea Gibbs – Welfare Officer
Ian Lee – Health & Safety Officer (Part Meeting)
John Winnister – Acting Health & Safety Officer
Dave Smith - Equal Opportunities Officer
Mark Belkin – Education Officer
John Gough – Labour Link Officer
Michael Apps – Retired Members Officer
Paul O'Neill – Minute Secretary
Richard Chow – EOC
Harry Day – Training Officer
John A Whiting – North East Sector
Julie Shirt – North East Sector
Rob Matthews – North West Sector
David Lamey – South West Sector
Gary Edwards – West Sector
Karen Walling – West Sector

Apologies: Sarah Hardy Joe Easterbrook
Tim Stephens Claudette McNaughton
Fred Phillips Clive Tombs
Peter Hannell Rob Sydney
Mark Lione

Introductions and Welcome	Action
ER clarified the confusion over the attempted cancellation of today's meeting. The only person who can organise, authorise or cancel Branch meetings is the Branch Secretary. There are procedures in place for senior management to consult the Branch Secretary or Chair if they wish to discuss a desire to cancel a meeting due to operational pressures. ER discussed yesterday's events with Martin Flaherty and made it clear that the branch were disappointed in the way that senior management interfered with the democratic workings of the branch.	

<p>Workforce Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Management does not seem clear on what structures they want in place by 2013. Concerns have been raised, but it is still early days in the process. The Branch will be heavily involved in the process as time goes on. There are other ambulance trusts that have already recruited or employed Ambulance Care Assistants/Emergency Care Assistants. - 	
<p>Welfare(AS) New contact details for AS.</p>	
<p>Retired Members (MA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Retired members have been informed of the upcoming AGM. They will be having a separate meeting prior to the committee meeting. - 'Old Hands' reunion at Ilford. - Croyde Bay offers. 	
<p>Health and Safety (IL/JW)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Corporate H&S and WEWG meeting have been cancelled. - Some complexes have introduced overshoes, despite no corporate agreement being found or even made. - Single responders waiting on scene of extended periods of time. - Vehicle replacement program - Some A&E vehicles are now 10 years old. Some vehicles missing services due to depleted fleet. - 40 new Cars/FRU's about to be introduced yet no provision being made for their cleaning. - KW states that some staff have admitted to having a lack of confidence when working on a FRU but find this preferable to being on a relief rota. - Some FRU staff under pressure to convey patients, unsafely and in an unsuitable vehicle due to pressure from waiting for an ambulance or managers wanting to increase performance at any cost. 	
<p>Membership (PH)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No report. 	
<p>Treasurer (GA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - End of Year accounts have been checked through with a Unison accountant. - Discrepancy in one account has been accounted for (traced back to 2004) and rectified. - GA proposes transferring £50,000 into the Branch building society account in order to benefit from a higher rate of interest. 	Agreed
<p>Communications (RS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No report. 	
<p>EOC (RC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rest Break review – JE to meet with Alan Muncey - Reviewer's role in UOC needs to be consulted. Could be a positive role - RC acting as UOC representative. 	

Equalities (DS) - No report.	
Education (MB) - MB has written to ER in order to compile a list of accredited courses that are available.	
Labour Link (JG) - JG standing for re-election as APF member's representative as well as election to the National Political Forum.	
PTS (vacant) - No report.	
Regional Organiser (PT) - No report	
Staff Council (EB) - Meeting on 12 th January 2007 was cancelled.	
AOB - RM – Rota reviews.	
Date of Next Meeting - 14 th March 2007 – Venue TBA	