



London Ambulance Service Unison Branch Committee Meeting

14th March 2008 1600hrs – Union Jack Club SE1

- Present:**
- Eric Roberts - Branch Secretary
 - Eddie Brand – Chair
 - Sarah Hardy – Vice Chair
 - George Achilles – Treasurer
 - Rob Sydney – Communications Officer
 - Michael Apps –Retired Members Officer
 - Ian Lee – Health & Safety Officer
 - Dave Smith - Equal Opportunities Officer
 - Mark Belkin – Education Officer
 - John Gough – Labour Link Officer
 - Peter Hannell – Membership/Pensions Officer
 - Paul O’Neill – Minute Secretary
 - Richard Chow – EOC/UOC
 - Tim Stephens – Central Sector
 - Mark Lione – East Central Sector
 - Nadine Poonawala – North West Sector
 - John A. Whiting – North East Sector
 - Julie Shirt – North East Sector
 - Rob Matthews – North West Sector
 - Clive Tombs – South East Sector
 - Dave Lamey – South West Sector
 - Karen Walling – West Sector
 - Gary Edwards – West Sector

- Apologies:**
- Andrea Gibbs
 - Phil Thompson (running late)
 - Fred Philips
 - Claudette McNaughton

Introductions and Welcome	Action
Previous Minutes - Minutes from 12 th February 2008 <u>agreed</u> as a true record.	Agreed
Matters arising - ER - EOC issues will be going to the Joint Secretaries meeting.	

<p>Branch Secretary's report (ER)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Legal report and running total of compensation distributed. Compensation totaling £55,675.47p has been awarded to LAS Unison branch members since March 2007. £1,290,668.06p of compensation has been obtained by the branch on behalf of its members since 1999. - Agenda for Change – Unsocial hour's ballot result. - European Commission consultation on blood-borne infections resulting from needle stick injuries. - Council for Healthcare Regulatory Excellence (CHRE) Guidance on sexual boundaries between healthcare professionals and patients. - Staff feedback form road shows. - Mileage rates. - The time at hospital timer on the MDT should be switched off by the end of the month. - Final reminder for joining the current NHS pension scheme. Not joining it may mean an extra five years on your working life. There are currently 8% of staff not on the current scheme - Retirement grant request received for John Lowton from Barnet Ambulance Station. - Searchlight charity night on 28th March 2008. - Love Music Hate Racism Carnival 27th April 2008 at Victoria Park E3. - Richard Chow will be running the Flora London Marathon in aid of the Cuba Appeal. 	<p>Agreed/GA</p>
<p>Agenda for Change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More A&E staff to be recruited. - Hope to have a review of banding for Paramedics in the near future. - Bank holiday agreement (interpretation) now at Partnership Forum. <p>Partnership Forum (ER)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Response regarding 'active area cover' proposals. - Issue of job/hospital turnaround times will be back on the agenda after March. - The Department of Health will be sending people to question staff about the London Ambulance Service. - Framework agreement for consideration of requests to move to alternative duties, Step Down agreement. - Various members raised issues with the <u>draft</u> Area Cover Arrangement document. The committee debated the topic at length. ER reiterated that this is a <u>draft</u> document and this has been agreed as so by staff representative's service wide. ER went on to explain the effects of the DOH and NHS reforms on modern union actions. Staff need to be clear of our rights when wishing to ballot working practices. 	
<p>Branch Officer Reports:-</p> <p>Communication (RS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Verbal report including that recent technical problems have been affecting the website. 	
<p>Retired Members (MA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Renewal fee (£12) due for branch affiliation to the National Pensioners Convention. 	<p>Agreed</p>
<p>Health and Safety (JW)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ongoing issue of ordering new A&E vehicles. - FRU Driving assessment/ driving course. - Bariatric limit is now 19 stone - Infection Control. - Possibility of an Intra Osseous Device (Gun) being placed on each vehicle. - Manual Handling - MRU's 	

<p>Membership (PH)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Verbal report including that PH will be stepping down as Membership Officer and taking over the role of Diversity Officer. He thanked the committee for their support over the last two years. 	
<p>Treasurer (GA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Verbal report including that the Annual Returns have been completed and sent off on time. 	
<p>PTS (GE)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The PTS contracts for the UCLH and Kingston end at the end of March. All but one of the affected staff has been redeployed. 	
<p>Welfare (AS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Verbal report and a reminder to all representatives and members to contact Andrea Gibbs for welfare related issues. 	
<p>EOC (RC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The proposed rota changes within EOC were rejected by staff and referred to the Joint Secretaries. An agreement has now been reached. - VOR – new computer software is being installed in an effort to reduce vehicle downtime. 	
<p>Diversity/Equalities (DS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Verbal report including: Rehabilitation for employees due to injuries sustained at work being debated at Parliament. 	
<p>Education (MB)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Looking at combining the grievance and disciplinary course with the steward's course. - Book grant applications discussed. 	
<p>Labour Link (JG)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - JG was re-elected to the Greater London Regional Committee. - Attended the Labour Link Forum at the House of Commons, push for Ken Livingstone to be re-elected Mayor of London. 	
<p>Pensions (PH)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No report. 	
<p>Regional Organiser (PT)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Returning Officer report distributed. Nominations were received for the following Branch Officer posts:- Branch Secretary – Eric Roberts Chair – Eddie Brand Vice Chair – Sarah Hardy Treasurer – George Achilles Health & Safety – Ian Lee Equalities Officer – Peter Hannell Membership/Recruitment – Dave Smith Welfare Officer – Andrea Gibbs Communications Officer – Rob Sydney Education Officer – Mark Belkin Minute Secretary – Paul O'Neill Labour Link Officer – John Gough <p>As there were no other nominations for any of the above posts, and subject to AGM approval the above are duly elected as Branch Officers for the London Ambulance Service Unison Branch.</p>	

Staff Council (EB) - Minutes will be available for next branch meeting.	
AOB - None submitted.	
Date of Next Meeting - 22 nd April 2008 (Branch Officers only)	