

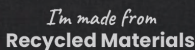


**MAKE
WORK
BETTER**

GMB CONGRESS 2025

CONGRESS GUIDE

**Research commissioned by BPMA and conducted by independent research company Relevant Insights LLC*





Welcome to Brighton for the 2025 GMB Congress.

It is great to be back on the Sussex seaside with our wonderful GMB family. Throughout the last year, people who are here this week and in all parts of our union have joined with their comrades to do incredible things – campaigning, organising, winning – to make work better. GMB is a stronger union because of you.

In a world of challenge and change, our union can be proud that we remain pacesetters. In workplaces across the UK and Ireland, GMB continues to show the way. We listen to our members, and those who may wish to join us, and with a purposeful energy, work tirelessly to turn these hopes into reality. Employers everywhere know that when our union calls, it is our members who are speaking.

Listening and campaigning to what matters in the workplace is delivering success. It's an approach that has ensured we have been a major influence in the world of work and wider society for more than 135 years. In recent times, we have refreshed our commitment to these principles and the results are clear: our financial membership is growing. People want to join GMB.

This is a great time to be at our annual Congress. As with generations of previous delegates, you occupy a significant position, being representatives and the voice of members everywhere. It's an amazing honour, and we will all reflect on those who put us here as we take part in the debates and decisions in the coming days.

Congress is also a time to say hello again to familiar faces and friends, to renew bonds of solidarity, exchange tales of battles fought, and recommit ourselves to the noble cause of working for a better world of work. If this is your first Congress, I hope you have the most enjoyable time and take every opportunity to meet with fellow GMB people, making friendships that can last a lifetime.

We are growing again. We are a stronger, better union. Let's keep the focus on our members and workplaces, and make the year ahead another great one for GMB.

GENERAL INFORMATION



A little congress gift to thank you for everything you do for our members

You will find yours in your Congress backpack – enjoy!

Tellers: **Regional Cover**

London Region **will count**
Southern Region

Midlands Region **will count**
Wales & South West Region

North East, Yorkshire &
Humber Region **will count**
London Region

North West & Irish Region **will count**
Midlands Region

GMB Scotland **will count**
North East, Yorkshire &
Humber Region

Southern Region **will count**
North West & Irish Region

GMB Wales & South West
Region **will count** GMB
Scotland

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EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Please take a moment to make sure you are aware of the following emergency procedures.

UPON HEARING THE ALARM (INTERMITTENT)

1. The alarm will be silenced whilst the activated area is checked.
2. Standby and await further information.

UPON HEARING THE ALARM (CONTINUOUS RINGING)

1. LEAVE THE BUILDING by the nearest available exit – follow all instructions given by Brighton Centre Staff and Duty Manager.
2. DO NOT wait to collect personal belongings (e.g. coats, handbags) and DO NOT wait around for others.
3. DO NOT USE THE LIFTS.
4. DO NOT run or panic – there is no need. Move swiftly but calmly.
5. CLOSE THE DOOR if you are the last to leave the room you are in.
6. PROCEED to the assembly point at the junction of RUSSELL ROAD/WEST STREET at the rear of the building.
7. WAIT at the assembly point for further instruction from Brighton Centre staff.
8. DO NOT leave the assembly point
9. DO NOT RE-ENTER THE BUILDING without permission.

IF YOU SHOULD DISCOVER A FIRE (AND NO ALARM HAS YET BEEN SOUNDED)

1. OPERATE THE ALARM from the nearest alarm point.
2. Proceed as per point 2 above.

If you have any questions regarding the above information please contact the venue events team.

T: 01273 290131

E: brightoncentre@brighton-hove.gov.uk

TRADE UNIONISTS FOR POLITICAL REFORM

Join us at our GMB Congress Stall

**Come and say hello and pick up your free copy
of the “Trade Union Case for Political Reform”**

Until we address the inequalities of our electoral
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**Join the trade union campaign for
proportional representation and political
reform backed by trade unionists across
the country.**



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WHEN IT'S NEEDED MOST

CONGRESS LOCAL GIFT



Every year, a GMB Region is invited to select a recipient to receive the Congress Local Gift award.

This year London Region has chosen the Keech Hospice in Luton who care and support adults and children across Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire, and Milton Keynes with life-limiting conditions to receive the Congress 2025 award.

Keech Hospices are one of a few in the country offering both specialist adult and children's end of life care plus vital support to their families. This organisation was chosen because although hospice care is free for people to use, unlike the NHS, it is not fully state funded.

Keech hospices only receive 30% of all the funding needed from the government and rely on fundraising and the generosity of members of the public.

They extend a huge thank you to GMB members for our donation and wish us well for a successful Congress.

OBITUARY LIST

Staff & Pensioners

Janet Adams
 Hm Berry
 Arthur Bird
 Frederick Brigham
 Kevin Clark
 Margaret Clarke
 Margaret Clayson
 P Davies
 P Gorman
 Joan Gorvett
 Eleanor Graham
 Keith Halliday
 Helen Hillyard
 Richard Holmes
 Peter Horan
 Sandra Hunter
 Walter Jones
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 Shirley MacDiarmid
 Joseph Manderson
 Marion Mooney
 Keith Moore
 Jennifer O'Riordan
 D W Paine
 D A Payne
 J S Race
 Janet Rowe
 Margaret Saggs
 E E Sancho
 Geoffrey Somes
 I Stone
 Ivor Thompson
 D Turner
 Kenneth Turner
 B Wilmott

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Fred Brigham
 Richard Dean
 Harry McCloud
 John Monk
 Russel Rhodes
 Tony Warr

Midlands Region

Dorothy Mills
 Cliff Murray
 Mike Weale

North East, Yorkshire & Humber Region

Barbara Lister
 Neil Moore
 Stuart Stanton
 Richard Walker
 Reginald (Reg)
 Walker

North West & Irish Region

Dougie Henry (ex-
Regional President)
 Peter Horan (ex-
Regional Secretary)
 Mark Cullen
 Phil Davies
 James Delaney
 Thomas Dickson
 Peter Ferguson
 Alicia Foy
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John Kearney
 Vinny Mawdsley
 John P McLoughlin
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 David Padley
 Kathleen Savage
 Monica Smith
 Geraldine
 Sunderland
 Terry White

GMB Scotland

Allan Boal
 Eddie Mills
 Robert Orr
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Southern Region

Alan Durrant
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 Don Maclean
 Richard Rigden

Wales & South West Region

Kevin Dixon
 Mick Hutchinson



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- Family issues
- Neighbour disputes
- Employment
- Criminal and Regulatory

UNIONLINE FRINGE

Planning for
the Unthinkable

Sunday 8 June 12.45 to 13.45

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Visit: unionline.co.uk



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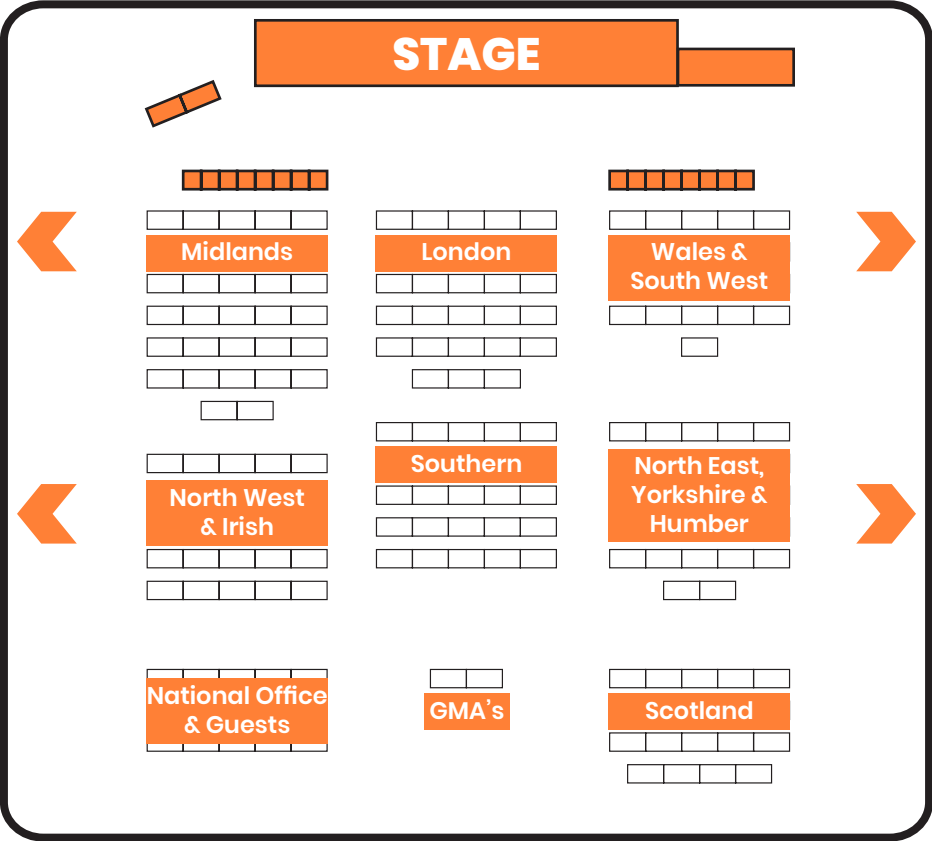
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SEATING PLAN



AT A GLANCE

YOUR SUNDAY LUNCHTIME FRINGES

12:45 – 13:45

Refreshments are available at all of today's fringes

Skyline

Labour's New Deal for Working People – from Parliament to Workplace

Labour Unions

Syndicate 1

Working with Bladder Cancer

Fighting Bladder Cancer UK

Syndicate 2

GMB Women Changing the World

GMB GRASP

Room 1A

GMB Financial Statements

GMB Finance Department

Room 1B

Vision of Learning

GMB National Lifelong Learning Committee

Room 1D

Planning for the Unthinkable

Unionline

Labour's New Deal for Working People – from Parliament to Workplace

Labour Unions

TIME: 12:45 – 13:45

ROOM: Skyline

Last July, Labour were elected with a mandate for change, and a commitment to deliver a New Deal for Working People – to raise wages, strengthen individual rights, and empower unions to organise and bargain for better pay and conditions.

It was a commitment to address the imbalance of power in the workplace and put power back into the hands of working people.

Almost a year on, Labour's Employment Rights Bill (brought forward within 100 days) will soon become law.

Join this fringe to hear about the new rights and protections in the Bill, what unions are doing to ensure that the New Deal is delivered in full, and how GMB is working to ensure collective rights to organise and bargain are strong and meaningful, so we can put them to put them to use to deliver for working people.

CHAIR: **Barbara Plant**
GMB National President

SPEAKERS: **Stacey Booth**
GMB National Officer for Schools

Laurence Turner MP
Chair of the GMB Parliamentary Group

Helen Pearce
Director of Labour Unions

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

Working With Bladder Cancer

Fight Bladder Cancer UK

TIME: 12:45 – 13:45

ROOM: Syndicate 1

This fringe meeting will highlight patient experiences and raise awareness of how living with bladder cancer can impact on ability to work and how to ensure work-places are supportive of people living with bladder cancer.

CHAIR: **Dean Gilligan**
GMB London Region – CEC Member

SPEAKERS: **Dorothy Markham**
Fight Bladder Cancer Trustee and Patient

Kathleen MacKenzie
Senior Advanced Clinical Nurse Specialist

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

GMB Women Changing the World

GMB GRASP

TIME: 12:45 – 13:45

ROOM: Syndicate 2

Come along and hear from and about diverse GMB women who have changed the world of work and beyond.

Whether it be empowering others or making changes in law, Global Majority women in GMB have been seriously influential but often overlooked.

We'll be celebrating historical achievements and current campaign successes, hoping to inspire further activities and action in your workplace and in wider society. All welcome.

CHAIR: **Allison Simon**
GMB GRASP Ambassador

SPEAKERS: **GMB GRASP Sisterhood**

Dawn Butler MP
Vice Chair of GMB Parliamentary Group

Ferdousara Uddin
GMB Midlands Organiser

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

GMB Financial Statements

GMB Finance Department

TIME: 12:45 – 13:45

ROOM: 1A

Join us for a presentation and a question-and-answer session on GMB's 2024 Financial Statements.

SPEAKERS: **Alison Turtle**
GMB Head of Finance

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

Vision of Learning

GMB National Lifelong Learning Committee

TIME: 12:45 – 13:45

ROOM: 1B

This fringe event will promote the work of GMB's National Lifelong Learning Committee and outline plans for the future.

CHAIR: **Stephen Hutchings**
GMB National Lifelong Learning Committee Chair

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

Planning for the Unthinkable

Unionline

TIME: 12:45 – 13:45

ROOM: 1D

50% of adults in the UK don't have a will and 33% of those are over 55. If you don't have a will you are at risk of everything you have being given to someone you haven't chosen.

If you don't have a power of attorney in place for you or your loved ones and you lose capacity then someone else, who you don't know, could decide what happens to your financial affairs and your health care.

If you don't have a life interest trust in place and the unthinkable happens, your surviving loved ones could be evicted from their homes and your children could lose their inheritance.

Planning for the unthinkable is something many of us avoid doing but it is something that is vitally important to protect you and your loved ones should it happen.

This session will provide important advice about why you should have a will, why you should have a power of attorney and why you should consider a trust. The inconvenience alone coupled with the time and cost consequences of not preparing for the future can have a damaging impact on a family at a time when they are going through so much.

CHAIR:

Matthew Cordall

Head of Legal Practice, Unionline

SPEAKERS:

Maddalena Proctor

Wills, Trusts and Probate Manager,
Unionline

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

AT A GLANCE

YOUR MONDAY LUNCHTIME FRINGES

12:45 – 13:45

Refreshments are available at all of today's fringes

Syndicate 1

Fixing Public Services

GMB Public Services Section

Syndicate 2

Job Evaluation: Where do we even start?

GMB Women's Campaign Unit

Room 1A

Hands off Cuba! New threats from a second Trump presidency

Cuba Solidarity Campaign

Room 1B

Then They Came for the Trade Unionists

GMB Equality Activists

Room 1C

Shaping a Just Transition to Net Zero

GMB Private Section

Fixing Public Services

GMB Public Services Section

TIME: 12:45 – 13:45

ROOM: Syndicate 1

Funding for our Public Services has been squeezed consistently since 2010 and there is no sign of it improving any time soon, even with the new government.

At the heart of the cuts are GMB members. Jobs cut, services decimated, pay eroded. Whether you're working in public services or trying to access public services, the situation is at crisis point.

This fringe event will take a look at the extent of the damage on key sectors and take a look at what we need to do to start to repair it. Come along and join the debate and get involved in this important call to action.

CHAIR:

Simon Day

Public Services Section President

SPEAKERS:

Sandi Vennell

Higher Education National Rep

Gwylan Brinkworth

Police Staff National Committee Chair

Stacey Blair

National Care Committee

Donna Spicer

National Schools Committee Chair

Sonya Davis

Local Government Committee

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

Job Evaluation: Where do we even start?

GMB Women's Campaign Unit

TIME: 12:45 – 13:45

ROOM: Syndicate 2

Come along to this interactive fringe workshop where we'll unpack job evaluation and explore how it connects to equal pay and equality at work.

Whether you're a rep, member or just interested in job evaluation, this is your chance to build confidence, ask questions and see how job evaluation can be a powerful tool for equality at work.

CHAIR: **Megan Fisher**
GMB National Women's Campaign Unit

SPEAKERS: **Cara Stevenson**
GMB Scotland Women's Campaign Unit

Lauren Strain
GMB National Legal Officer

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

Hands off Cuba! New threats from a second Trump presidency

Cuba Solidarity Campaign

TIME: 12:45 – 13:45

ROOM: 1A

The re-election of Donald Trump signals a dangerous time for Cuba.

The US blockade, now well into its seventh decade, is being tightened to unprecedented levels and the island is experiencing its worst economic crisis in decades with shortages in all areas of life.

Hear the latest on the impact of the blockade, how Cubans are resisting despite the difficulties, as well as practical measures that GMB members can take to help and demonstrate their solidarity.

CHAIR: **Barbara Plant**
GMB National President

SPEAKERS: **Ismara Mercedes Vargas Walter**
Cuban Ambassador to the UK

Rob Miller
Cuba Solidarity Campaign Director

Jo Pitchford
GMB Branch Secretary, North West & Irish Region

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

Then They Came for the Trade Unionists

GMB Equality Activists

TIME: 12:45 – 13:45

ROOM: 1B

The far right is on the rise in the UK, in the US, in Europe.

Violent racists, misogynists, homophobes are trying to cloak their hardline hateful policies as “common sense” principles in an attempt to appeal to voters. We see through those lies.

We’ve seen attacks on migrants, ethnically diverse people, LGBT+ people, on women’s access to essential healthcare and attacks against disabled people.

In this fringe we’ll come together and debate how the far right is a threat to us all, whoever we are – and about how we get organised to defeat far right narratives and protect our communities.

SPEAKERS: **Eleanor Saunders**
GMB Equality and Inclusion Organiser

Taranjit Chana
GMB National Race Strand Lead

Joe Smith
GMB Disabled Activist

Dawn Lovatt
GMB CEC LGBT+ Member

Penny Robinson
GMB London Region President

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

Shaping a Just Transition to Net Zero

GMB Private Section

TIME: 12:45 – 13:45

ROOM: 1C

Join fellow trade union activists for an important discussion on the future of energy and workers' rights.

As the UK moves towards net zero emissions, electrification will play a key role in decarbonising our economy. But what does this mean for jobs, industries, and working communities? This meeting will explore the opportunities and challenges of ramping up electrification—from constructing, connecting and heating homes to creating jobs, skills and well-paid union jobs and crucial role unions must play in ensuring a just transition. We'll also look at how to balance the need for clean energy with the need for energy that is affordable and secure for all.

Come and help shape a union-led vision for a fairer, greener future.

CHAIR:

Dave Douglas

GMB CEC Member

SPEAKERS:

Stephen Wells

Head of Project Performance
EDF Renewables

Kate Grant

Director of Asset Operations
National Grid Electricity Transmission

Charlotte Brumpton-Childs

GMB National Officer

Labour Government Minister TBC

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

AT A GLANCE

YOUR TUESDAY LUNCHTIME FRINGES

12:45 – 13:45

Refreshments are available at all of today's fringes

Skyline

Airport Workers Against Abuse

GMB Private Section

Syndicate 1

Tackling Sexual Harassment and Assault in the NHS and Ambulance Service

GMB Public Services Section

Syndicate 2

**The Future of Equal Pay:
Finishing What Barbara Castle Started**

GMB Women's Campaign Unit

Room 1B

**Introducing the Energy & Manufacturing Workers' Panel
– Putting Workers at the Heart of Net Zero**

GMB North East, Yorkshire & Humber Region

Room 1C

Health and Safety in the Gig Economy

GMB Private Sector Section

Airport Workers Against Abuse

GMB Private Section

TIME: 12:45 – 13:45

ROOM: Skyline

The GMB has conducted an in-depth nationwide survey – and the results are a wake-up call for our industry:

- 72.3% of airport workers have felt unsafe going into work due to abuse or aggressive behaviour from passengers.
- 61% have considered leaving the industry because of the abuse they've faced.
- Only 12% said their health and wellbeing have not been adversely affected by this crisis.

This is not acceptable. Airport workers deserve respect, safety, and support – not abuse. Please join us at our Fringe Meeting to hear from frontline workers, share your experiences, and help shape the union's campaign for real change across the aviation industry.

Let's stand together for a safer, fairer future in aviation. Because abuse should never be part of the job.

CHAIR:

Matt Roberts
GMB National Officer

SPEAKERS:

Nathan Keightley
GMB National Lead Rep at Swissport

Gay Shaba
GMB Lead Rep at British Airways

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

Tackling Sexual Harassment and Assault in the NHS and Ambulance Service

GMB Public Services Section

TIME: 12:45 – 13:45

ROOM: Syndicate 1

Culture across the NHS and particularly the ambulance service is extremely poor in every aspect – bullying, racism and sexual assaults and harassment. Poor leadership is a real problem.

GMB reps on the frontline have had to deal with these highly sensitive and emotive cases, representing members who are victims and alleged perpetrators, without any support from their employer, or training from GMB.

Come to this fringe and hear direct from ambulance workers of their experiences, and how GMB's National Ambulance Committee campaigned for better education to deliver the best possible support to members.

CHAIR: **Simon Day**
GMB Public Services Section President

SPEAKERS: **Paul Turner**
GMB National Ambulance Committee Chair

Dan Shears
GMB National Health, Safety & Environment Director

Jac's Murphy
West Midlands Ambulance Service

Jan Buoey
North West Ambulance Service

Tracey Austin
Yorkshire Ambulance Service

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

The Future of Equal Pay: Finishing What Barbara Castle Started

GMB Women's Campaign Unit

TIME: 12:45 – 13:45

ROOM: Syndicate 2

It's been more than 50 years since Barbara Castle's groundbreaking Equal Pay Act came into force, yet true pay equality remains out of reach for many.

Join us for this forward thinking fringe event where we'll take a deep dive into the future of equal pay and how drive real change for working people.

Find out about how GMB is campaigning to improve access to equal pay and push for changes in the law – so working women don't have to wait decades for pay justice.

Come and be part of the conversation.

CHAIR:

Megan Fisher

GMB National Women's Campaign Unit

SPEAKERS:

Rhea Wolfson

GMB Head of Internal & Industrial Relations

Charlotte Gardner

GMB Regional Officer

Pamela Whatley

GMB Equal Pay Activist

Lauren Lougheed

Leigh Day Solicitors

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

Introducing the Energy & Manufacturing Workers' Panel: Putting workers at the heart of net zero

GMB Women's Campaign Unit

TIME: 12:45 – 13:45

ROOM: 1B

For too long the discussion about green transition has been dominated by academics and think tanks.

GMB NEYH Region has brought together more than 100 workers from across the worlds of the energy & manufacturing industries to ensure that this debate takes the practical experience of workers into the discussion.

This fringe will feature panel members from a range of sectors who will set out how they are influencing the future of these key industries and our communities.

CHAIR: **Dave Douglas**
GMB Energy & Manufacturing Workers Panel Chair

SPEAKERS: **TBC**

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

Health and Safety in the Gig Economy

GMB Private Section

TIME: 12:45 – 13:45

ROOM: 1C

The gig economy is growing fast—but too often, this comes at the cost of workers' rights, security, and safety. Join fellow trade union activists for a vital discussion on the health and safety challenges faced by gig workers, from delivery drivers and couriers to freelance and platform-based workers.

We'll explore the risks associated with insecure work, the lack of legal protections, and the pressures created by algorithm-driven management.

This meeting will also focus on how unions can organise, campaign, and push for stronger regulations and protections to ensure all workers—regardless of employment status—have the right to a safe and healthy working environment. Come be part of the fight for dignity, safety, and justice in the modern world of work.

SPEAKERS:

Dan Shears

GMB Health, Safety & Environment Director

Lynsey Mann

GMB National Health & Safety Officer

Tracy Beeson

GMB National Evri Committee Chair

Ali Haydor

GMB National Uber Committee Chair

Claude Bahati

GMB National Deliveroo Rep

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

AT A GLANCE

YOUR WEDNESDAY LUNCHTIME FRINGES

12:45 – 13:45

Refreshments are available at all of today's fringes

Skyline

The Future of Gas

GMB Private Section – sponsored by Northern Gas Networks

Syndicate 1

Tackling the Explosion in Work-Related Violence

GMB National Health, Safety & Environment Department

Syndicate 2

Getting Involved in Politics: Breaking Down Barriers

GMB London Region

Room 1A

Ukraine, USA and Europe – what next?

Ukraine Solidarity Campaign

Room 1B

The Case for a 4-Day Week

4 Day Week Foundation

Room 1C

Tackling Racial Injustice in Your Workplace

GMB National Race & Organising Department

The Future of Gas – Sponsored by Northern Gas Networks

GMB Private Section

TIME: 12:45 – 13:45

ROOM: Skyline

As we face higher gas bills and with more than one hundred thousand gas workers facing an uncertain future, we will be discussing what we can do to decarbonise the sector and support GMB members and consumers who depend upon this key national asset.

CHAIR: **Andy Prendergast**
GMB National Secretary, Private Section

SPEAKERS: **TBC**

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

Tackling the Explosion in Work-Related Violence

GMB National Health, Safety & Environment Department

TIME: 12:45 – 13:45

ROOM: Syndicate 1

Workplaces have seen an explosion in violence since the first lockdown was ordered in March 2020.

Yet employers seem unable to tackle the issue, and the law is woefully inadequate. When no-one else is prepared to fight for changes, GMB is there to get improvements, justice and compensation.

This fringe meeting will explain GMB's approach to combatting violence; how we have made a difference in the workplace; and how we can help victims of violence gain justice and compensation.

Our panel will give their personal experiences, and there will be the chance to ask questions.

CHAIR: **Lynsey Mann**
GMB Health, Safety & Environment Officer

SPEAKERS: **Angie Kennedy**
GMB Southern Regions Schools Member

Dan Shears
GMB Health, Safety & Environment Director

Ben Cook
Asda National Health & Safety Reps Forum

Annette Greenwood
GMB Care Sector Activist

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

Getting Involved in Politics: Breaking Down Barriers

GMB London Region

TIME: 12:45 – 13:45

ROOM: Syndicate 2

Come to our fringe meeting to hear first-hand from our panel about their different routes into getting more involved in politics, the barriers and challenges they faced and what advice they would give others.

CHAIR:

Penny Robinson

GMB London Region President

SPEAKERS:

Anya Durrant

GMB National Labour Staff Branch President

Miriam Mirwitch

Chair of London GMB Councillors' Network

Lisa Gillmore

GMB National MPs' & Peers' Staff Branch President

Shama Tatler

Head of Group

Local Government Association Labour

Robbie Scott

TULO Campaigns and Political Officer

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

Ukraine, USA and Europe – what next?

Ukraine Solidarity Campaign

TIME: 12:45 – 13:45

ROOM: 1A

Ukraine continues to face the challenges of Russian occupation, resistance and reconstruction.

This meeting will consider this in the context of the threat to democracy from Trump and Putin today.

SPEAKERS: **Hanna Ostapenko**
Progresylni

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

The Case For A 4-Day Week

4 Day Week Foundation

TIME: 12:45 – 13:45

ROOM: 1B

Now is the time for workers to win a 4-day week.

The 4 Day Week Foundation is the UK's leading organisation in the fight for a reduced working week for all with no loss of pay.

They have organised this fringe meeting in collaboration with GMB members who have developed successful workplace campaigns for a 4-day week.

CHAIR:

Phil Lindsey

4-Day Week Foundation Organiser

SPEAKERS:

Ryan Barnett

BDA Rep

Merlin Gable

BMA/BMJ Rep

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

Tackling Racial Injustice in Your Workplace

GMB National Race & Organising Department

TIME: 12:45 – 13:45

ROOM: 1C

We all know racism exists, but what can we do about it in our workplaces?

Come along and hear about some recent campaigns GMB reps and officers have been involved in that tackle issues relating to race head on – providing insight, inspiration and practical tips to take back to your branch.

All welcome.

CHAIR:

Mel Bartlett

GMB Women's Campaign Unit

SPEAKERS:

Dele Akinfolarin

GMB Southern Region Organiser

Kelvin Enabulele

GMB GRASP Ambassador

GMB Race Ambassadors

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

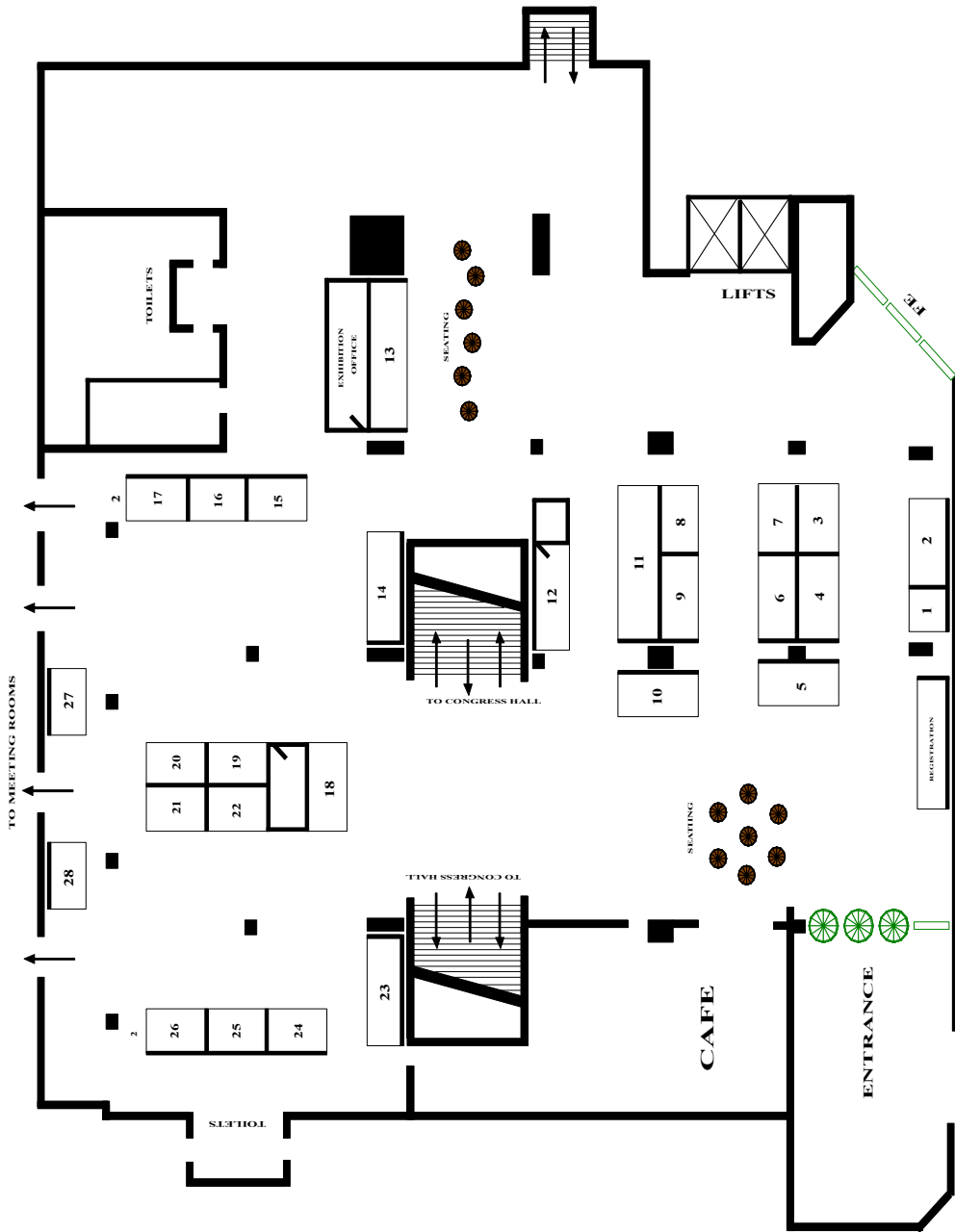
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SPONSORS

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EXHIBITION PLAN



EXHIBITOR INFORMATION



Airport Workers Against Abuse

Stand 25

GMB Union launched the “Airport Workers Against Abuse” campaign to tackle the growing issue of abuse faced by airport staff.

This initiative highlights the verbal and physical assaults that employees endure from frustrated passengers, often due to delays, cancellations, or security checks.

The campaign calls for greater public awareness, respect, and support for frontline airport workers, who play a vital role in keeping travel operations smooth and safe.

GMB is urging airport authorities and employers to implement stronger protections, provide better training, and ensure swift action against abusive behaviour.

The union also emphasizes the importance of mental health support for affected workers. By uniting staff across roles—

from check-in and security to baggage handling—the campaign aims to foster solidarity and a zero-tolerance approach to abuse.

GMB’s message is clear: abuse is not part of the job, and all airport workers deserve a safe and respectful working environment.



Alex Ferry Foundation

Stand 27 – **Tuesday only**

Alex Ferry Foundation is the grant-making charity born of the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Union’s (CSEU) 35-hour working week campaign.

Around 200,000 trade union members contributed to the campaign’s strike fund in 1989, powering actions that saw the pivotal campaign succeed sooner than anticipated.

The surplus in that fund eventually became the endowment of Alex Ferry Foundation.

These origins are critical to who we are and what we do.

The Foundation’s High Court

of Justice-approved board composition must comprise 8 trade union representatives. We currently have 3 GMB trustees on our board.

Our grant-making is divided along two strands, the community and research grant programmes. This dual approach is designed around our mission: to empower workers and their communities, now and into the future.

Our work brings the philanthropic sector closer to the trade union movement. We recognise both as key players in maintaining an effective and dynamic civil society.

Please do come and chat to us at our stall to find out more.

BLACKFORDS
LLP

Blackfords Solicitors Sponsor

Blackfords LLP is a top ranked firm of solicitors who provide a specialist criminal and regulatory service to GMB members in partnership with Unionline. Blackfords also has a specialist family and childcare department offering GMB members discounted rates for all family and matrimonial matters.

Blackfords are experts in advising and representing members in criminal investigations and court proceedings arising in and out of the workplace. A 24 hour service is provided in the event of a member needing urgent representation at a police station. This service is also extended to members' family and friends.

Blackfords provide advice and representation to members facing proceedings from their professional or regulatory body, such as HCPC and NMC. We also represent at Coroner's Inquests where a member is involved in a work related death and act in DVLA and taxi licensing matters, including appeals against licence suspensions and revocations. Blackfords help GMB to keep Britain working.

the socialist bookshop
bookmarks
★ Liberating minds since 1973 ★ 

Bookmarks Bookshop Stand 14

Bookmarks is the UK's leading socialist bookshop and official bookseller for the TUC. With a shop in central London and an online bookstore, our range of books covers politics, economics, trade unionism, labour history, the environment, black struggle, women, culture, fiction, radical kid's books and much more.

And we don't just sell books, we publish them too – books that answer the big questions that socialists and trade unionists are asking.

We provide bookstalls at union conferences, demonstrations and campaign meetings around the country.

Visit our website at www.bookmarksbookshop.co.uk to see the full range of our books.

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Cuba Solidarity Campaign Stand 21

CSC campaigns for the end of the illegal US blockade of Cuba, for the return of the illegally US occupied Guantanamo Bay and for respect for Cuba's sovereignty and independence, free from interference by foreign governments.

Visit our stand to join the campaign, to affiliate your branch, to get the latest news on Cuba and CSC, to receive information on events,

campaigns, delegations and tours, or to buy from our range of t-shirts, music, books, chocolate, coffee and other Cuba related gifts.



Deliveroo

Stand 2 – **Monday & Tuesday only**

Our landmark agreement with GMB Union benefits around 70,000 genuinely self-employed riders who are an essential part of the fabric of local communities up and down the country.

We have long advocated for increased protections and security for riders, alongside the flexibility and control they value. Representation and a voice through the GMB and the rider reps is a crucial part of that. It has led to higher pay, stronger benefits, and a better day-to-day riding experience.

But too many riders still face intimidation while riding. We are calling on the government to extend to riders the same legal protections from assault and violence as they have promised to retail workers.

Please join us at our reception on Monday 9 June at 17.30 in the West Bar to find out more about

our campaign and how we are working together to create a fairer on-demand economy.



Fight Bladder Cancer

Stand 16

Fight Bladder Cancer is a charity that supports people affected by bladder cancer, raises awareness, advocates for improvements in care, and campaigns for research into this neglected cancer.

Patients and carers founded the charity – and we keep patients at the heart of our work.

With around 20,000 people diagnosed with bladder cancer each year in the UK, it affects people of all ages and genders. Sadly 1 in 2 with advanced bladder cancer will not survive. Survival rates have changed little in decades.

Exposure to cancer-causing chemicals in the workplace is the second most common preventable cause of bladder cancer.

To tackle this, Fight Bladder Cancer and the GMB are working to ensure at-risk workers receive information, safety training, and

appropriate personal protective equipment to minimise exposure to cancer-causing chemicals.

By working together, we can reduce the incidence of bladder cancer and improve the outcomes for those affected.

GMB CREDIT UNION

GMB Credit Union

Stand 24

The GMB Credit Union is thrilled to be exhibiting at this year's GMB Congress. As a proud key member benefit supplier of the GMB Union, the GMB Credit Union will be demonstrating its commitment to financial empowerment and community support. Attendees can look forward to engaging discussions, informative opportunities to learn about the various financial services and products designed to help members achieve their financial goals.

The GMB Credit Union's presence at this year's GMB Congress underscores its dedication to fostering a strong, united community. We invite all members to visit our stand, participate in conversation, and discover how they can support the members they represent in relation to their financial well-being.

Finally, we look forward to meeting you and discussing how you can get involved to make the finances of our members work better by being a part of GMB's Credit Union.



GMB NHS Dental Plan Stand 4

Do you have a NHS dentist? Get £500 of NHS cover with the GMB NHS dental plan and get money back each time you visit your NHS dentist, meaning no more costly treatment bills.

Plus as a special offer for GMB members, you're covered immediately as soon as you join.

Visit our stand to learn more about this simple and straightforward GMB member benefit or join online at www.gmbdental.co.uk

Claims are handled directly by a 'Not for Profit' insurer with a 135 year heritage of providing affordable healthcare. GMB NHS Dental Plan is administered by Protego Group who is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.



GMB Health, Safety & Environment Department Stand 12

From Covid-19 to construction; asbestos to air quality; violence to viruses; and MSDs to mental health, we are here to give you the help and support you need.

So come and meet the National Health, Safety and Environment Department at our stand. We will have our latest range of guides and leaflets, and can help you with any queries, concerns or burning issues that you need expert advice on.

And we may have some unique merchandise to give away this year...

Join
Today

NHS Dental Plan

Do you have a NHS Dentist?

Would you like all
your NHS dental
bills repaid
in full up to
£500
per year?

The GMB NHS Dental Plan gives you money back each time you visit your NHS dentist, so no more costly treatment bills.

What's more, as a special offer:

Join today and get immediate cover!

Get covered for £500 per year towards:

- ✓ Examinations, scale & polish and x-rays
- ✓ Fillings, root canals & extractions
- ✓ Crowns, bridges, dentures & repairs
- ✓ Dental-related prescriptions

Each policyholder also gets cover for

- ✓ Oral cancer (upto £6500)
- ✓ Accidental impact injury (upto £750)
- ✓ Hospitalisation, dental related (£25 a night)
- ✓ Much more!

Monthly premium £12.50 per person

Call our customer service team to join the plan on 0800 161 5771 or apply online at www.gmbdental.co.uk

GMB
UNION

Important Information: In order to make your first claim, you must have been to see your dentist within the last twenty four months for a full examination. Any pre-existing condition or ongoing treatment is not covered; only new dental conditions that occur after joining are covered by this plan. Cover is for NHS dental charges only as per the NHS England banding charges and no cover is provided for any private dentistry charges on this plan - please check with your dentist as they may offer both private and NHS treatment. You can join the NHS Dental Plan up to your 70th birthday and use the policy for as long as you wish. Please note: if you are treated in Northern Ireland, Scotland or Wales you will be reimbursed for NHS charges up to the NHS England banding limits. Policy terms and conditions apply. Claims are handled directly by the insurer who is a 'Not for Profit' organisation with a 135 year heritage of providing affordable healthcare. GMB NHS Dental Plan is designed and administered by Protego Group Ltd. Registered Office: 260 – 268 Chapel Street, Manchester M3 5JZ. GMB is an introducer appointed representative of Protego Group who is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (304363) © Protego Group 2025

THE FUTURE OF EQUAL PAY FINISHING WHAT BARBARA CASTLE STARTED

TUESDAY 10TH JUNE – SYNDICATE ROOM 2 – 12:45–13:45



It's been more than 50 years since Barbara Castle's groundbreaking Equal Pay Act came into force, yet true pay equality remains out of reach for many.

Join us for this forwarding thinking fringe event where we'll take a deep dive into the future of equal pay and how we drive real change for working people.

Find out about how GMB is campaigning to improve access to equal pay and push for changes in the law – so working women don't have to wait decades for pay justice. Come and be part of the conversation.

Speakers: Rhea Wolfson, GMB Women's Campaign Unit
Charlotte Gardner, GMB Regional Officer
Pamela Whatley, GMB Equal Pay Activist
Lauren Lougheed, Leigh Day Solicitors

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED



GMB Internet Café

Stand 13

Want to know what's happening back at your workplace? Need to check your email, print something, research a motion or review your speech?

Visit the GMB Internet cafe. We have several laptops available that you can print from.

The Internet Cafe can be found at Stand 13 in the Congress Exhibition.



GMB Women's Campaign Unit and Equality & Inclusion Department

Stand 11

GMB puts equalities at the heart of our industrial campaigns.

Come along to the national equality stand for updates on current campaigns delivering workplace justice for women, disabled workers, ethnically

diverse workers and lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans workers.

Organisers and activists will talk you through some of our key campaigns, including from the Women's Campaign Unit and National Race & Organising Department.

You can pick up key resources for workplace negotiation and member organising on equal pay, women's safety, the menopause, trans and non-binary equality, reasonable adjustments, neurodiversity at work, pregnancy loss, flexible working and domestic abuse.

You can find out about getting involved in a self-organised group in your region or setting one up from scratch.

Whether you're an experienced branch secretary, a branch equality officer or you're totally new to Congress, make sure you come along to get some ideas on kicking off an equality campaign in your workplace.



GMB National Lifelong Learning Committee

Stand 15

The National Life Long Learning Committee has now carried out the rebranding we under took and are now in the process of securing training providers for Courses.

Projects to bring together learning throughout the GMB movement are still ongoing and the committee are awaiting to see how the Education review policy will help the NLLC.

It continues to be a long-term approach by the Committee and we are in talks with training providers and are committed to the training.

The National Life Long Learning fund is available to all members of GMB Union for life changing opportunities for higher education or skills courses with the purpose of upskilling enabling members to gain extra skills for the workplace.

The NLLC is run by lay members

of GMB Union with delegates from each region, the Committee is overseen by a National Officer.

We meet and discuss any learning opportunities and look at any applications that are sent to the Committee.

Should any member want further information then make contact with the Chair by using the mail address provided.

lifelonglearning@gmbactivist.org.uk



Potters' Pledge

Stand 27 – **Sunday & Monday only**

Join us on our stand to learn about the Potters' Pledge, and how we are building the biggest worker-led campaign to save Britain's Pottery Industry, to ensure Government and industry support and invest in our historic and world-leading industry.

potterspledge.uk

The historic Potteries serve as a timely example of the scale of the threat of high energy prices on UK industry – killing what is left of the UK's world-leading industry in the

Potteries in Stoke-on-Trent.

The UK needs real-world plans to make a success of the green energy transition for our industries. To deliver jobs, prosperity and security, and deliver our climate obligations, this change must be done with our manufacturing workers – not to them.

The Midlands Manufacturing Workplace Organisers are all active workplace representatives that want to make a difference and want to make work better. We are campaigning and fighting to make workplaces the heartbeat of the future industrial solution. Come and join us.



GMB Retired Members Association

Stand 1

The GMB Retired Members Association (RMA) continues to grow and plays a significant role in the work of the GMB.

1. Providing practical assistance in the recruitment, retention and organisational objectives of GMB
2. Campaigning on behalf of retired GMB members to bring

about dignity in retirement

3. Working in partnership with like-minded pensioner groups who share our values
4. Promoting equal opportunities, in line with GMB policies and principles

The RMA is actively campaigning to further the interests and aspirations of retired members and their partners, so retired people have the freedom to live in dignity and not the fear of need.

We work as part of the wider pensioner movement across country, campaigning to influence and lobby national, devolved nations, regional and local government to promote and advance pensioners interest and concerns.

As a worker you joined GMB to protect and advance your interests at work. You can remain a member when you retire to protect and advance your interests in retirement.

If you are about to retire, or you may have already done so and would like to stay active and involved in the GMB, contact your Regional Secretary or the RMA co-ordinator in your region.

We look forward to you working with you in the RMA.



**Labour Research
Department**

Labour Research Department

Stand 26

The Labour Research Department (LRD) is an independent organisation providing trade unions with up-to-date information on employment law, health and safety, pay and equality.

GMB is affiliated to LRD nationally, as are many GMB branches. LRD affiliates receive regular updates and access to specialist guides and legal handbooks, including Law at Work. Other publications include Labour Research, Fact Service, Workplace Report, and Safety Rep.

GMB also subscribes to LRD Payline – the UK's online pay and conditions database for unions. Free to all GMB members, Payline includes over 2,000 collective agreements from both public and private sectors. It covers pay settlements, working hours, holidays, special leave, shift pay, regional allowances and family-friendly policies.

Visit our stand for a Payline demo, free sample magazines, and to sign up for digital publications.

Send us your deal – sharing your pay deal on Payline supports

negotiators, your GMB colleagues and the wider movement.

LEIGH DAY

Leigh Day Sponsor

Leigh Day is the leading claimant employment law firm, with a strong track record of working alongside GMB to win cases and achieve settlements for members.

Examples of this include the Asda equal pay case and gig economy cases such as Addison Lee.

For group claims, their experience is unrivalled, with numerous cases in the Supreme Court, achieving millions of pounds in compensation for thousands of workers. They are the only band 1 rated firm for employee and trade union work in both leading directories (Chambers and Partners and Legal 500).

Leigh Day's ongoing partnership with GMB reflects a shared commitment to workers getting fair treatment, and safeguarding their rights in the workplace.



Nicaragua Solidarity Campaign Action Group

Stand 20

The Nicaragua Solidarity Campaign Action Group has worked with trade unions in Nicaragua for over forty years.

Our work focuses on fostering and maintaining links of support and solidarity between trade unions in Nicaragua and the UK in order to share knowledge and experience, enhance mutual understanding and promote social and economic justice.

We also campaign to defend Nicaragua's sovereignty and right to self-determination in the face of ongoing aggression by the United States.



**PALESTINE
SOLIDARITY
CAMPAIGN**

www.palestinecampaign.org

Palestine Solidarity Campaign

Stand 22

"We know too well that our freedom is incomplete without the freedom of the Palestinians" – Nelson Mandela

Palestine Solidarity Campaign (PSC) is an independent and democratic organisation, campaigning for peace, equality & justice for Palestinians, in support of international law & human rights, and against all forms of racism.

Please get involved and support our solidarity work:

- Join PSC and affiliate your branch and region
- Join us in our Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions campaigns
- Sign and share our petitions and online actions on our website and social media
- Raise the issue of Palestine in your branch and region, we can supply resources: material, speakers and more.

Please visit our stand in the exhibition area for information about our current campaigns, to find out how you can get involved and stand in solidarity for justice for Palestine.

www.palestinecampaign.org
[@PSCupdates](https://facebook.com/palestinesolidarityuk)
info@palestinecampaign.org
 020 7700 6192



Pellacraft

Stand 18

GMB branded merchandise offers a budget-friendly method to promote your region, branch, and organisation. It can enhance your visibility, attract new members, and remind current members of your support.

Whether you need items for a campaign or recruitment efforts, we provide solutions to effectively convey your message. Our selection includes ethically sourced, eco-friendly, and UK-made products, ensuring alignment with your values.

We deliver a comprehensive service, handling graphic design, artwork, and merchandise distribution, so you don't have to.

Visit www.pellacraft.com or call us at 01623 636602.



Politics for the Many

Stand 8

Politics for the Many is the trade union campaign for electoral reform.

It's backed by unions and activists nationwide. We believe the Westminster system is failing working people because it is increasingly disconnected and remote.

Labour won a historic landslide victory on just 34% of the vote, but in another election, this could easily benefit an extreme party – it's random, unfair and it leaves voters powerless.

The impact is a growing distrust in politics and lower voter turnout. We believe change comes through people joining together and recognising that our votes should count equally.

Visit our stand for a chat and to pick up information.

Quilter Financial Advisers

Quilter Financial Advisers

Stand 3

Help your members achieve their financial aspirations.

Whether investing to save for retirement or a rainy day, putting some protection in place for family or getting advice on your mortgage, speaking with Quilter Financial Advisers can help you and your members to turn these complex issues into a personalised plan.

Why not ask us to organise a financial planning webinar or telephone surgery for your members.

Quilter Financial Advisers is a part of Quilter Financial Planning, who are a part of Quilter plc, a UK focussed full-service wealth manager.

Speak to us TODAY in the exhibition hall to find out more or call us on 08000 85 85 90.

Approver Quilter Financial Services Limited & Quilter Mortgage Planning Limited. April 2025



Simpsons Solicitors

Stand 6

Simpsons Solicitors are proud to be associated with the GMB Trade Union and to be working in association with Unionline. We act for GMB members in relation to personal injury claims and employment matters providing legal services to members on a whole range of legal issues.

We are a practice employing lawyers who have many years experience in dealing with claims for trade union members and their families.

The principle of our practice is that we are supportive of the Trade Union movement and our staff are all members of the GMB Trade Union. We can assure members that we have the interest of not only their individual members claim at heart, but the interest of the GMB Trade Union generally.

We currently act in association with Unionline for North West & Irish, Midlands & East Coast and Birmingham & West Midlands Regions.

We are also involved in assisting the GMB in training new shop stewards in health and safety matters, as well as running other training courses and have been very pleased to attend the activists conference for the regions we act for.

Further, we have lawyers who address various trade union conferences and have a particular presence at the annual GMB North West & Irish Regional Womens Conference.

If you need any legal assistance, please contact Unionline on 0300 333 0303 and they will ensure your matter is dealt with and referred to ourselves, where appropriate.

Our contact details are:
0161 485 6030 (Cheadle Hulme)
and 0151 236 4312 (Liverpool) or
you can email us at:

law@simpsonssolicitors.co.uk



Changing the world
of work for good

TUC Futureproofing Industry Stand 28

The TUC's Futureproofing Industry project: We aim to Protect Jobs & Fight the Far Right.

Reform and Farage are building power in our industrial communities. The TUC's Futureproofing Industry project is pushing back, by building a network of anti-far right reps from manufacturing & energy sectors who want to speak out against the far right in social media videos and on TV and radio.

The TUC's Futureproofing Industry project helps union reps and officers to protect manufacturing jobs in high carbon industries by winning futureproofing upgrades.

The future of 800,000 manufacturing jobs are relying on timely plans and investment in technological upgrades - to both meet climate targets and protect jobs against offshoring or closure. We help unions get on the front foot so that we can protect our jobs and our communities.

JUST LAUNCHED!

Unlock Savings of up to £197¹ on Your Home Insurance

Overpaying for your home insurance?

Our **NEW Home Insurance Comparison Site**, powered by MoneySuperMarket compares prices from over 80 of UK's most trusted insurers to help find the right deal for you.

What's more, if we can't beat your renewal quote, you could get a £25 gift card!*

SCAN THE QR CODE to see how much you could save...



Home Insurance comparison site is operated by MoneySupermarket.com Limited. Registered in England No. 03945937. Registered Office: MONY Group House, St. David's Park, Ewloe, CH5 3UZ. MoneySupermarket.com Limited is an appointed representative of MONY Group Financial Limited, which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA FRN 303190).

¹51% of consumers could achieve this saving with NUS, in partnership with MoneySuperMarket. Based on Online independent research by Consumer Intelligence during 1st Jan to 31st Jan 2025

* T&Cs apply, see www.gmbprotect.com/renewal-price-promise.

GMB is an Introducer Appointed Representative of GMBProtect which is a trading name of Union Income Benefit Holdings Ltd, authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority to distribute non-investment insurance products, register number 307575.

NEW GMB TRAVEL INSURANCE -

Explore with Peace of Mind!

Planning a getaway? Our NEW GMB Travel Insurance offers:

- ✓ Four flexible cover levels
- ✓ up to £10 million medical cover (Premier)
- ✓ £10,000 cancellation cover (Premier)
- ✓ Travel disruption as standard

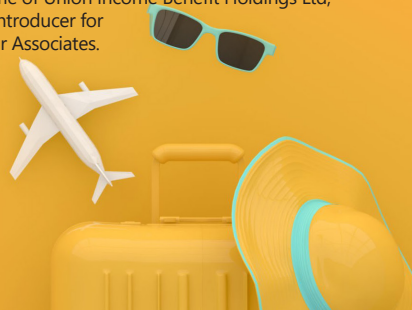
Tailor your policy and travel with confidence, knowing you're protected against the unexpected.

**To get a quick quote
SCAN THE QR CODE
or visit**

gmbtravelinsurance.com



GMB Travel Insurance is arranged and administered by David Oliver Associates underwritten by Inter Partner Assistance SA UK Branch (Part of the AXA Group). David Oliver T/as David Oliver Associates is an Appointed Representative of DOA Underwriting Ltd which is Authorised & Regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. FRN 772309. GMBProtect, a trading name of Union Income Benefit Holdings Ltd, acts as an introducer for David Oliver Associates.





TU Fund Managers

TU Fund Managers

Sponsor

TU Fund Managers is one of the oldest Unit Trust investment companies in the UK having celebrated its 60th anniversary in 2021.

Founded by the trade union movement back in 1961, unlike most other investment houses, TU is wholly owned by a charity, the TUUT Charitable Trust, which has over the years supported a diverse range of worthy charitable causes.

We also have a subsidiary company, TU Financial Management Services Limited which offers a range of investment products for many UK trade unions, charities and other NGOs.

We are delighted to be one of the sponsors at the GMB Conference in Brighton this year and wish it every success.



working with GMB

UIB GMB Protect

Stand 5

Life can be full of surprises, but with our straightforward insurance plans, you'll have the support you need during the toughest times.

No medical questions. Just coverage that's there for you, when you need it most - if you're a UK resident and within the age limits, you're guaranteed to be accepted for all our plans including:

- **GMB MEMBERSHIP ENTITLEMENT – FREE £5,000 Accidental Death Cover, for UK residents aged 18–69. Annually renewable. Always free.**
- Life Cover
- Accident Protection Plan
- 50+ Personal Accident Plan
- Income Protection Cover

PLUS, JUST LAUNCHED – Home Insurance and Travel Insurance

Terms and conditions apply to all policies.

Visit: www.GMBProtect.com

Call: 0800 033 4181



Ukraine Solidarity Campaign

Stand 2 – **Wednesday only**

SOLIDARITY CAN HELP UKRAINE WIN!

JOIN UKRAINE SOLIDARITY CAMPAIGN

We were founded in 2014 during Ukraine's Revolution of Dignity, in solidarity with the workers and progressive movements defending democracy on Kyiv's Maidan.

We are part of the Labour and Trade Union Movement. We campaign for military aid to Ukraine and for justice for the war crimes committed by the Russian army.

We organise direct aid to Ukraine, supporting the struggles of its trade unions in their fight to defend members' lives, calling for full labour rights and a socially just reconstruction programme.

UNIONLINE

THE LAW FIRM OWNED BY GMB MEMBERS

Unionline

Stand 10

UnionLine was established in 2014 and remains the only Trade Union owned law firm in the UK. We are different to any other law firm as we are owned by GMB members for GMB members, and we are proud to have done this for the last 11 years.

Our values are simple – the member comes first and every year we provide legal support and advice to hundreds of thousands of GMB members in personal injury claims, employment issues, family law, probate and will drafting to name but a few.

Our legal expertise is provided as part of your GMB membership and gives you access to legal advice when you need us...all free of charge. So, whether you need a free simple will, advice on care home fees, been injured at work or have a unique legal problem we are here to help whenever you need us.

We work closely with all GMB regions and national to ensure that GMB members are at the forefront of everything we do.

So, join the hundreds of thousands of members who have already called us to see how we can help or come and visit us at Congress.



War on Want

Stand 19

Poverty is political. Half the world lives in poverty yet the richest 1% own almost half of all global wealth. Big business monopolises land and resources, depriving governments of vital tax revenue which is why we are campaigning for a UN Tax Convention and a wealth tax here in the UK.

Trade deals protect corporate profits over people and have expanded the privatisation of public services, undermining standards and regulations.

We believe the best way to tackle poverty is working in partnership with unions and inspirational social movements in rural communities, factories, sweatshops or conflict zones across the world to hold those responsible for inequality and poverty to account. We condemn any attack on the right to strike, to protest or to boycott.

Together with our Global South partners and allies, we are campaigning for a Global Green New Deal that puts workers and unions centre-stage to develop a meaningful just transition.



WASPI

Stand 17

Women Against State Pension Inequality (WASPI) calls for fair compensation on behalf of 3.6 million women born in the 1950s for the way the Department for Work and Pensions communicated changes to their State Pension age from 60 to 65, and later to 66 under the 2011 Pensions Act.

In spring 2024, following a six-year investigation, the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman found the DWP guilty of maladministration and asked MPs to intervene and ensure the Government delivers compensation at Level 4 of their financial remedy scale (£1,000–£2,950) to those affected.

In late 2024, the Government apologised for the mistakes made by the DWP, and accepted the PHSO's finding of maladministration, but nonetheless refused to set up

a compensation scheme. In response, WASPI launched a High Court Judicial Review of the Government's decision, arguing the DWP failed to base its conclusions on rational reasons.

Watkins & Gunn

Watkins & Gunn

Stand 9

Watkins & Gunn is a leading law firm dedicated to supporting trade unions and proudly represents the GMB and its members. For nearly 40 years, we have championed the rights of union members, reflecting our unwavering commitment to the trade union movement and its core values.

Our award-winning team of specialist and approachable lawyers offers a wide range of legal services tailored to the unique needs of members and their families. From employment disputes to personal injury claims, we provide innovative, practical, and compassionate legal solutions that genuinely make a difference.

We understand the challenges GMB members face and take pride in delivering personalised support with professionalism and care. Watkins & Gunn stands with the GMB every step of the way—delivering trusted and expert legal advice.



York Disabled Workers Co-Operative

Stand 23

York Disabled Workers Co-op is a company for disabled workers run by disabled workers.

Our mission is to provide work opportunities, in a small friendly environment where we aim to offer high quality employment on pay rates above the National Minimum Wage.

Our board are made up of paid and unpaid directors, all of whom work in the business or are GMB members. We are proud to say we are supported by a number of trade unions, as well as social enterprises, voluntary groups and committed individuals, who share our values.

At the YDWC we aim to make quality wooden products and garden furniture using recycled materials and wood that's been reclaimed and donated from wood manufacturers.

Guaranteeing that not only will our handmade craft products make a great addition to

your garden, but you can rest assured that they will be environmentally friendly and good value.

Over the last few years we have developed more products aimed at the trade union movement, from placards, ballot boxes, badges and flags to our highly successful range of marching banners specially made to order, so each one is unique in its design and aimed at celebrating our Trade Union movement.

Come along to our stall in the exhibition area and see what we're all about. Order your garden furniture. Design a new marching banner for your GMB Branch or just come along for a chat and support our venture in providing employment for local disabled people living in York.

Come and visit us at our stall at Congress. We have some great products on display.

Contact us on: **01904 421091** or **sales@yorkdwc.co.uk**

Leigh Day is the only top-ranked firm for employee and trade union advice in national legal directories

Leigh Day is a leading claimant-side employment law firm with a strong track record of working alongside GMB to support workers in the retail sector and the gig economy.

Their work in equal pay cases has been significant and are acting for over 120,000 store and retail workers in challenging pay disparities and fighting for fair wages.

The firm has successfully represented GMB members in high-profile cases, including those involving discrimination, unfair dismissal, and workers' rights.


Their expertise ensures that workers receive the protection and justice they deserve, and their ongoing partnership with GMB reflects a shared commitment to advocating for fair treatment and safeguarding the rights of employees in these vital industries.


They are the best connected, best prepared and best informed firm I have worked with in this field.


Chambers and partners 2025



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