

Statement on General Secretary

29 Apr 2020

Updated: Wednesday 29 April

The Finance and General Purposes Committee has today accepted the resignation of Tim Roache as General Secretary of GMB.

Tim was diagnosed with Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (M.E.) some years ago, which has previously resulted in two years' sickness absence from work. Having been signed off by medical professionals earlier this week, Tim was advised to refrain completely from work – and has now taken the difficult decision to stand down from the role permanently, indicating that he does not feel mentally or physically able to continue to lead our union.

John Phillips, GMB Regional Secretary for Wales and South West will now become Acting General Secretary of GMB with immediate effect and until a new General Secretary is elected. The union is considering a process and timetable for that election, which will be held as soon as practically possible.

GMB received an anonymous letter, last Wednesday, in which a number of allegations have been made about Tim's conduct whilst he held the office of General Secretary.

An investigation has been launched and it is not appropriate to comment further pending the outcome of that investigation. Complaints which are brought to our attention will be dealt with appropriately in line with our policies and procedures and with appropriate regard to fairness and sensitivity.

Updated: Tuesday 28 April

Today, our General Secretary, Tim Roache has submitted his resignation.

Tim has unfortunately been suffering with ill health for some time now and has made the difficult decision to stand down from his role, that he does not feel able to continue, in leading our union going forward.

A meeting with the Finance and General Purposes Committee will be convened to discuss the resignation and further updates will follow.

