

# TRADE UNION BILL LOBBY

November 2nd, 2015

**PROTECT  
THE RIGHT  
TO STRIKE**

**GMB**  
GMB@WORK

## What's happening and where to meet

GMB is asking our members to attend the TUC lobby of Parliament on November 2nd.

Parliament doesn't start until 2:30pm on a Monday — so we can't lobby MPs until then.

We'll kick off at 1pm with a pre-lobby rally then people will gradually head over to the House of Commons (if we all went at once it would be chaos). If you can make an appointment with your MP in advance it's best to do so (if only to make sure they're in Westminster that day!).

We're expecting lots of people to attend, so keep in mind it will take a while to get through security.

### Rally: 1:00pm — 4:00pm

The rally will start at 1pm at Westminster Central Hall. See reverse for GMB meeting point.

For transport to the venue from your area, please speak to your regional office.

### Lobby: from 2:30pm

Because so many people are attending, we'll work with TUC to stagger members going through House of Commons security. Some members will have arranged appointments in advance (see reverse), if that's the case it's best to give an hour to get over to Parliament and through the doors.

## Rally venue & directions



## Meeting your MP

You can either arrange to see your MP in advance or try and track him or her down on the day.

### In advance

You can call your MP's office or drop them a line on email. The House of Commons switchboard number is 0207 2193000 and most MPs have an email address that is `firstname.lastname.mp@parliament.uk`.

Simply let your MP know you're coming to London for the lobby and ask them to arrange a time to meet you. You'll need to give plenty of time to get through security on the day.

### On the day

If you've not made an appointment in advance, when you've cleared security you should head to Central Lobby. In this area there is a desk staffed by House of Commons employees. If you let them know you'd like to see your MP, they'll do their best to track them down for you.

If more than one person is attending from the same area, it's possible you'll meet as a group.

Most MPs are used to the lobby process and will understand what is happening. When the MP is available (sometimes this can be a bit of a wait if they're in a committee or on the House of Commons floor) your name will be announced over the loud speaker in Central Lobby. You have to listen carefully because it can get quite loud and the speaker isn't always clear.

## GMB ARRANGEMENTS

### ON THE DAY

GMB is organising a big presence at the rally and the lobby of Parliament.

We're asking members to meet directly across the road from Westminster Central Hall at 12.00 noon so we can distribute flags and walk to the rally together.

The rally starts at 1pm.

If you have any questions in advance, drop Kamaljeet a line on: [kamaljeet.jandu@gmb.org.uk](mailto:kamaljeet.jandu@gmb.org.uk).

## HOUSE OF COMMONS SECURITY

When going into the Commons, be aware that t-shirts with slogans on them are not allowed, neither are banners. You'll also need to pass through a metal detector and bags will be checked.

There will be a place to leave bags if you need to, but it's advisable to travel light.

## What to do when you meet your MP

MPs are just people, and they're people elected by you, your neighbours and communities. So here are some tips on getting your point across:

1. Prepare for your meeting. Make sure you've read the key facts and figures and you know what points you want to make. Anticipate what questions your MP will ask (what would you ask you if things were the other way around?).
2. Introduce yourself and anyone who is with you.
3. Briefly lay out your key points and why you want your MP to oppose the Bill and lay out exactly what action you'd like him or her to take (your GMB notes for the day will have plenty of information about this).
4. Listen politely to the response and make sure you provide your own answers to the points raised, but always make sure the conversation is civil.
5. Emphasise local issues and concerns — especially if your MP has a very small majority.
6. Make sure you give your MP a way to follow up with you.