



Young Members Campaigns Meeting
GMB Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

Thursday 27th July 2017, 5-7pm

1. Attendees:

Damon Cooper, Neil Derrick (Regional Secretary), Rachel Harrison (Young Members Officer), Beccie Ions (Young Members Secretary), Jawad Khan (Young Members Chair), Tom Kowalski, Jenny Stokes, Emily Warrillow and Joe Wheatley.

2. Apologies:

Saffron Crossley, Lou Foster-Wilson (Regional Equality Officer), Gina Harding, Yusra Hussain, Summer Risebury and Dean Thomas-Reid.

3. Mary Turner

A few moments of silence and reflection were taken to remember Mary Turner, GMB President. It has been confirmed that National Office in Euston, London will be renamed Mary Turner House. There will also be a memorial of her life held in autumn.

4. Neil Derrick - Regional Secretary

Placed on record his thanks for all the great work on organising and campaigns by our regions young members committee. The region will continue to support our activities.

This week has seen a landmark ruling in the courts regarding employment tribunal fees. It is the most significant legal reverse that this government has faced. GMB will be able to claim back £100,000+ in claims alone. More importantly, people who have been unable to pursue claims due to cost will now be able to - these are predominantly women and discrimination claims.

Politics of Hope - Manifesto Workshop. The first event is to be held in August. Will look to arrange further dates shortly. The workshop will look at the Labour Party manifesto and consider what it is and how our members can relate to it.

Regional political school in November is once again over subscribed.

General Election. A further 4 seats have been identified in this region as being target seats at the next election, whenever that is. Pudsey, Shipley, Morley and Calder Valley. We will be supporting wherever we can.

ASOS. The dispute continues between ourselves, Community Union and TUC. If no satisfactory resolution then the GMB may leave the TUC.

Care sector workers have just had a ruling by the government that workers who are required to work night shifts including sleep overs will be exempt from having to receive



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the National Minimum Wage. This is a disgraceful decision affecting thousands of low paid workers. The GMB will be campaigning against this.

5. Post-Election Labour Affairs

Young members were out in force during the general election helping to secure seats for many Labour MPs in the region. Some seats saw a huge increase in their vote share. All the MPs send messages of thanks to all who helped out.

6. Mental Health Matters Campaign

The regions young members committee won an award at congress for this campaign - The President's Leadership Award for the Most Inspirational Equality Project for organising. Congratulations to all involved. Beccie Ions collected the award at Congress and brought it in to the meeting for us all to see.

Circulated the up to date campaign plan. (Copy attached) As a regional young members committee we will now collate some stats regarding mental health, produce a flyer to circulate to all workplaces and arrange a meeting with local MPs to discuss the campaign and how they can support it.

Action Points:

- * Research statistics on mental health - Beccie Ions
- * Create flyer using stats to circulate to all workplaces - Beccie Ions / Rachel Harrison
- * Arrange meeting with MPs and young members - Rachel Harrison
- * Recirculate the mental health checklist produced in the GMB Mental Health @ Work guidance - Rachel Harrison

7. Suicide Prevention Day - 10th September 2017

National young members are supporting this day. We discussed how our regions young members would support it.

Action Points:

- * Research statistics on suicide / social media bullying - Beccie Ions
- * Create flyer / social media guidance for circulation on the day - encouraging it's ok to talk, how families are affected, signpost to places to get help - Beccie Ions & Joe Wheatley
- * Look to produce a video - Joe Wheatley
- * Email to all young members asking to send in quotes and photos for circulation via social media on the day - Rachel Harrison (Email) & Beccie Ions (Social Media)
- * Write to local papers / media outlets informing them of this campaign and what we will be doing on the day - Joe Wheatley
- * Contact suicide prevention organisations for advice / support for individuals and family and friends - Joe Wheatley



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8. World Mental Health Day - 10th October 2017

As above. Same campaign as suicide prevention day. Repeating on World Mental Health Day.

9. Pride Season

GMB is supporting 2 main pride events and young members are invited and encouraged to attend. If you want to join us on the day or help out get in touch with Rachel Harrison who will put you in touch with the organiser for the event.

Sunday 6 August - Leeds - Open top bus in the parade. We will be joined by young members from Birmingham.

Sunday 13 August - Wakefield - GMB are the main sponsors and have a stall at the event.

10. Apprentice Campaign

This is a priority campaign for the TUC Young Workers Forum and GMB North West & Irish Region Young Members.

The TUC Young Workers Forum have submitted a motion to Congress in September. If it is passed the campaign will be launched.

Activists have already been contacted throughout the region to give details on apprenticeships in their workplaces. We need case studies of good and bad apprenticeships. Also examples of where GMB have secured good apprenticeships so that best practice can be shared and encouraged.

Action Points:

* Find out exactly what information the TUC need from us - Jawad Khan to speak to Craig Dawson

11. Regional Equality Campaigns

An update was given about the regional equality forum campaigns. Young members are encouraged to get involved and assist with these. The Hate Crime campaign continues. A flyer is currently being created for distribution to all workplaces. Dyslexia Awareness Week - week commencing 2nd October. The forum are producing a flyer regarding this and aim to target as many workplaces as possible during the week. If young members have any ideas or can assist in accessing workplaces or other places during the week then get in touch. Our regional young members may also assist with some social media campaigning during the week.



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It was suggested that we try to run a campaign around BAME workers. Ethnic minority workers are still one of the most disadvantaged and exploited groups of workers. Need to look at running an industrial campaign.

Beccie Ions is due to attend her first national equality forum meeting next week as the GMB Youth Representative. She will report back to us on how it goes.

Action Points:

- * Rachel Harrison to link up the equality forum and Beccie Ions to discuss social media campaigning for Dyslexia Awareness Week.
- * Jawad Khan to have a meeting with Tim Roache and Kamaljeet Jandu in September and feed back to us and the equality forum.

12. Other Campaign Ideas

Patch the Homeless - We have been approached by people involved with a campaign looking at getting MP's to support work in preventing homelessness. Will circulate further details once received.

TUC Norway Co-operation - Jawad and Joe went to Norway with the TUC earlier in the year to meet trade unionists there and discuss their 'summer patrol'. This is an event involving all trade unions meeting with first time workers and speaking to them about trade unions and the importance of them joining and getting active. There may be an opportunity to go back next year and see the 'summer patrol' in action. Hopefully, this can be brought back here for us to replicate. The Norway delegates have also been invited to the regional TUC AGM in March 2018. We will look to organise a meeting / social event with them.

13. Any Other Business

Damon Cooper has arranged a meeting with Amanda Wadsworth MBE, Department of Work & Pensions to discuss alternatives to the job centre. Damon will feedback on how this meeting goes.