

AGM 2024

CONTENTS

AGENDA OF MEETING
MINUTES OF LAST AGM (2023) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accuracy• Matters Arising
BRANCH SECRETARY REPORT <i>LIVE REPORT</i>
FINANCIAL REPORT <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Branch Accounts 2023• Budget 2024• Honoraria Payments 2023
ELECTION OF BRANCH OFFICERS
MOTIONS TO AGM
STATEMENT OF AIMS & VALUES CORE BRANCH RULES <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proposed Rule Changes
BRANCH OBJECTIVES FOR 2024
ELECTION OF BRANCH CHARITY

MEETING DATES AND ATTENDANCE AT AGM 2023

27 Feb to 3 March 2023 Virtual Meetings

Present:	MONDAY 27th February 2023
	8.00AM Virtual
	Present: 23 Members, Regional staff 1.
	12.30PM Virtual
	Present: 22 members
	TUESDAY 28th February 2023
	12.30PM Ty Elai.
	Present: 16 Members
	5.30PM Sobell Sports Centre
	Present: 0 Members
	THURSDAY 2nd MARCH 2023
	12.30PM Pontypridd Library
	Present: 1 Member, Regional Staff 1.
	5.30PM Red House, Merthyr.
	Present: 4 Members, Regional Staff 1.
	FRIDAY 3rd March 2023
	12.00 SWFRS
	Present: 11 members

MINUTES of LAST AGM 2023

1.	Opening Remarks by Branch Chair
1.1	Apologies were received from Chair (JM) for a number of meetings, due to work commitments. Assistant Secretary (DS) chaired the meeting.
2.	Apologies from Branch Officers
2.1	All apologies recorded
3.	Minutes of the Branch AGM 2022 (Accuracy)
3.1	Agreed.
4.	Minutes of the Branch AGM 2022 (Matters Arising)
4.1	No matters Arising
5.	Annual Report of Branch Secretary
5.1	<p>National Pay Negotiations: are ongoing and will provide an update to members by email newsletter.</p> <p>Secretary asked that members talk to their colleagues and if they are informed at some stage there is to be a Ballot, the important thing is members vote.</p>
5.2	<p>New ways of working, Agile working etc: We continue to encounter ongoing issues over home working or lack of opportunity for home working. Working from Home does not suit everyone. We will continue to monitor its impact on our members.</p>
5.3	<p>Health and Safety: Ongoing work which is coordinated by the H&S office, many enquiries from members in different employer requesting assistance, dealing with issues of stress, violence etc.</p>
5.4	<p>Women's Officer: has been campaigning throughout the 2022/23, Menopause campaign working with employers on policy development, Work done on the White Ribbon campaign etc.</p>
5.5	<p>Schools Work: A lot of time has been dedicated to on going work within the school's environment, many issues and challenges for our members.</p> <p>One of the main areas of concern is staff not recording Accidents/Incidents. And this could have serious consequences.</p>
5.6	<p>Well, its 2023, so a quick overview of our members and their family's situation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Higher Food prices. • Higher Energy bills. • Higher Fuel costs. • Still underpaid. • NHS at breaking point (getting set up ready for privatisation). • Government ministers with no morals, corrupted, Avoids paying tax. • Allows Profiteering in the middle of a pandemic. • Government ministers came outside their doors and clapped to support of frontline workers. • Government ministers propose restricting the rights of workers to take industrial action. <p>"TUC polling published in last year revealed that 1 in 3 public servants were taking active steps to leave their professions.</p>
5.7	<p>Defending the <u>right</u> to strike</p> <p>Secretary reported on National Government Developments in regard to restrictions on Industrial Action,</p>

	<p>Your RIGHTS to choose are under direct attack:</p> <p>When unions have to make a decision to ballot its members on any form of Industrial Action it is not done lightly, and is not done until all avenues of negotiations have been exhausted.</p> <p>When each individual decides by voting they will take strike action they know there is no other option. Exercising that right to put your mark in a box when deciding if you support a strike or not is fundamental to civil liberties.</p> <p>We have seen continuing attacks on workers living standards, Pay, Energy costs, Food costs and Fuel have all impacted on our members.</p> <p>The UK has some of the most draconian legislation in place to restrict the rights of workers to take industrial action and how unions must carry out ballots.</p> <p>But when employers will not negotiate, exercising the right to strike can be the only way to bring them back to the table.</p> <p>The government's plans to pass new laws imposing so-called 'minimum service levels' in public services mean that when workers democratically vote to strike, they can be forced to work and sacked if they don't.</p> <p>Remember this... <i>"Your right to withdraw your labour is essential to your day-to-day Human Rights"</i></p> <p>The trade union movement stands ready to defend the right to Strike</p> <p>I will leave you with 2 of my main beliefs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A fair day's pay for a fair day's work. (We struggle to achieve this every year).• A worker who has no right to withdraw their labour is a Slave. <p>Do not let them take that right away from you. Your right to Choose.</p> <p>The Branch membership has increased we are now 5,600 members strong. We need more Unison representatives (Activists) in all our employers/workplaces. If you have an interest, please contact our office.</p>
	<p><i>Branch Secretary Report - Accepted</i></p> <p>Thompsons Solicitors Presentation:</p>
	<p>Caragh Hogan gave a talk on the importance of reminding members of the legal services available to them.</p> <p><i>Legal Services available to members as follows:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Personal Injury Claims (within 3 years) in and out of work• Industrial Disease Claims including contracting Coronavirus as a result of employment during the pandemic

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Settlement Agreements – same day advice • Free Wills Service • 30 mins free legal advice on any one topic • Criminal negligence • Probate • Powers of Attorney • Free legal advice for accidents
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6.	Financial Report
6.1	Accounts 2022 Accepted
6.2	Budget 2023 Accepted
6.3	Honorarium 2022 Accepted

7.	Elections of Branch Officers
7.1	Agreed

8.	Motions to the AGM
8.1	No motions received

9.	Branch Rules
9.1	No proposed rule changes received.

10.	Branch Objectives for 2023/24:
10.1	<p>The Branch Secretary explained there would be three main objectives for the branch going forward:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recruitment Organising and Retention (as ongoing part of National Campaign Work). 2. Cost Of Living 3. Branch Communications <p><i>The Branch Objectives for 2023/24 were ACCEPTED by the AGM</i></p>

11.	Election of Branch Charity:
11.1	Election of Branch Charity: The Branch Secretary explained to the AGM that the Branch can donate a sum of £1,000 to a nominated charity for the period of a year until next AGM. There for You: A sum of £500 is automatically donated to UNISON's Welfare
11.2	<i>No Nominations had been submitted to the AGM for additional Charities</i>

12.	ANY OTHER BUSINESS
	<p>All attendees will receive a high street gift voucher for their participation/ attendance at the AGM</p> <p><i>There was no other business and the AGM was APPROVED</i></p>

BRANCH SECRETARY REPORT (LIVE REPORT)

National Pay Negotiations: 2023/24 pay negotiations had been finalised and offer accepted following consultative ballot.

2024/25 are ongoing and will provide an update to members by email newsletter.

Secretary asked members talk to their colleagues and if they are informed at some stage there is to be a Ballot, the important thing is members vote.

Local Government Budgets

What's next...?

Health and Safety: Ongoing work which is coordinated by the H&S office, many enquiries from members in different employer requesting assistance, dealing with issues of stress, violence etc.

Women's Officer: has been campaigning throughout the 2023, Menopause campaign working with employers on policy development, Work done on the White Ribbon campaign etc.

Schools Work: A lot of time has been dedicated to ongoing work within the school's environment, many issues and challenges for our members.

One of the main areas of concern is staff not recording Accidents/Incidents. And this could have serious consequences.

Well its 2024, so a quick overview of our members and their families situation:

- Higher Food prices.
- Higher Energy bills.
- Higher Fuel costs.
- Still underpaid.
- Government Conservative ministers continue with their fixation on restricting the rights of workers to take industrial action.

Defending the right to strike

Secretary reported on National Government Developments in regard to restrictions on Industrial Action,

Your RIGHTS to choose are under direct attack:

When unions have to make a decision to ballot its members on any form of Industrial Action it is not done lightly, and is not done until all avenues of negotiations have been exhausted.

When each individual decides by voting they will take strike action they know there is no other option. Exercising that right to put your mark in a box when deciding if you support a strike or not is fundamental to civil liberties.

We have seen continuing attacks on workers living standards, Pay, Energy costs, Food costs and Fuel have all impacted on our members.

The UK has some of the most draconian legislation in place to restrict the rights of workers to take industrial action and how unions must carry out ballots.

But when employers won't negotiate, exercising the right to strike can be the only way to

bring them back to the table.

The government's plans to pass new laws imposing so-called 'minimum service levels' in public services mean that when workers democratically vote to strike, they can be forced to work and sacked if they don't.

Remember this

"your right to withdraw your labour is essential to your day to day Human Rights"

The trade union movement stands ready to defend the right to Strike

I will leave you with 2 of my main beliefs:

- A fair day's pay for a fair day's work. (We struggle to achieve this every year).
- A worker who has no right to withdraw their labour is a Slave.

**Do not let them take that right away from you.
Your right to Choose.**

The Branch membership has increased we are now 5,500 members strong. We need more Unison representatives (Activists) in all our employers/workplaces. If you have an interest, please contact our office.

MY Announcement: 2023/4 my last year as your UNISON Branch Secretary.
It has been a privilege to be a representative of UNISON members.

Peter Crews

FINANCIAL REPORT

Treasurer's Report to AGM March 2024

1 Accounts 2023

During the year the branch received £198k of funding, which was used to finance branch commitments and branch activities to support members.

In addition, we used £3,600 of reserves to fund one-off legal fees in respect of our office lease renewal.

Our Income and Expenditure account is attached providing a detailed analysis.

Some key activities to note for the year include: -

1. We spent £14k on specific recruitment projects for the benefit of members, which included: -

- £2,807 on a menopause campaign organised by the branch women's officer.
- £8,027 on social events for members (trips to Oakwood, Bath, and London plus two children's parties)

We spent £2,500 on donations which included £1,000 to Unison's There for You welfare which supplies welcome support to members in need of help.

Branch reserves at 31st December 2023 were £42k, which is more than adequate to meet future branch needs.

The branch also held £48k in an Industrial Action Fund, which can only be used to support members' hardship in times of Industrial action.

2. Draft budget 2024

Attached is our initial budget for 2024. This is a working budget to allow the branch to manage its finances in the early part of the year – based on known commitments and key priorities.

During the year, this will be continually reviewed and, where necessary revised to meet changed priorities or unforeseen commitments.

3. Branch honoraria for 2023

Attached is a list of honoraria recommendations for work carried out by activists in 2023 on behalf of members.

These are entirely discretionary one-off payments to recognise the voluntary work done on behalf of the branch in their own time.

Members are asked to accept the report and approve the recommendations made.

Kevin Jouvenat (Branch Treasurer)

Cwm Taf LGA Branch
Income and Expenditure Account 2023

	£
Branch funding	197,928.73
Planned use of reserves	3,600.00
Bank interest	2,097.80
Other income	50.00
TOTAL INCOME	203,676.53
Staffing	59,172.73
Honoraria	7,571.00
Rent and rates	37,066.81
Office admin	42,209.11
Conferences	17,712.98
Supporting members and meetings	17,480.22
Publicity and recruitment	3,634.14
Officer projects	11,016.61
Education	3,587.50
Donations and affiliations	2,587.98
Local activities	960.34
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	202,999.42
Surplus for year	677.11
Reserves B/F 1.1.23	45,015.67
Less planned use of reserves	-3,600.00
	41,415.67
Add surplus for year	677.11
Reserves C/F 31.12.23	42,092.78
Also held 31.12.23 (Industrial Action Fund)	48,632.10
Total funds held 31.12.23	90,724.88

Cwm Taf LGA Branch
Cwm Taf LGA branch 2024 budget

	£
Branch funding	196,000
Deposit account interest	2,000
TOTAL INCOME	198,000
Staff Salaries	62,000
Rent and rates	41,700
Office admin	42,700
Honoraria	7,900
Conferences	14,650
Supporting members and meetings	8,250
Recruitment & communications	2,000
Branch projects	7,000
Education	9,100
Donations & affiliations	1,600
Local activities	1,100
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	198,000
Surplus/ deficit	0

Note

This is a base budget only to allow the branch committee

to operate early in 2024

It is based on known commitments and activities

This will be reviewed monthly to meet changing priorities

and pressures as current restrictions are reviewed

Unison Cwm Taf LGA Branch AGMs 2024

2023 Honoraria Recommendations

Honoraria payments are entirely discretionary one-off payments made to members of Branch Committees and appointed Auditors.

They are recommended to recognise the voluntary work done on behalf of the branch in their own time

For 2023 the following honoraria are recommended:

Officers		£
Branch Secretary	Peter Crews	775
Chairperson	Joanne Murphy	775
Assistant Secretary	David Smith	775
Assistant Secretary	Darren Griffiths	610
Finance Officer	Kevin Jouvenat	775
Women's Officer	Helen Burton	775
Health & Safety Officer	Michelle Edwards	775
Convenor Education	Dean Price	775
Communications Officer	Terry Evans	387
Welfare Officer	Nicola Irwin	355
Membership services officer	Rhiannon Veale	387
Disabled members officer	Scott Fairburn	259
Retired members officer	Anita Lewis	227
Auditor	Nigel Birdsall	125
Auditor	John Carr	125
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		7,900
		<hr/>

ELECTION OF BRANCH OFFICERS 2024/25

OFFICERS	NAMES	VACANCY
Branch Secretary	Michelle Edwards	

Assistant Branch Secretary RCT	Nicola Irwin	
Assistant Branch Secretary MT	Darren Griffiths	
Branch Chair	Jo Murphy	
Assistant Branch Chair		
Treasurer		
Assistant Treasurer		
Communications Officer	Terry Evans	
Health & Safety Officer		
Welfare Officer		
Equalities Officer		
Sports & Social Secretary		
Membership Services Officer	Rhiannon Veale	
Environment Officer		
Women's Officer	Helen Burton	
Education Officer		
International Officer		
Life Long Learning Co-ordinator		
Labour Link Officer	Peter Crews	
SOG's		
Retired Members Officer	Anita Lewis	
Black Members Officer		
Disabled Members Officer	Scott Fairburn	
Young Members Officer	Shannell Trickey	
LGBT+ Officer		
Convenors		
Education Services		
Auditor	Nigel Birdsall	
Auditor	John Carr	

Motions to the 2024 AGM

There are no Motions to this 2024 AGM

STATEMENT OF AIMS & VALUES AND CORE BRANCH RULES

UNISON CWM TAF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA BRANCH

Statement of Aims and Values 2022

UNISON Cwm Taf Local Government Area Branch recognises that to be effective it needs the support and the involvement of all our members. It firmly believes that our members are the Branch. In recognition of the varied nature of our members' working patterns, work locations and contractual arrangements, this Branch endeavours to ensure its officers, conveners and stewards are readily available to meet members' needs and its meetings arranged at times and venues to the advantage of members attending. Furthermore, information given and decisions taken will be within an environment that ensures clarity and respect for members present.

The Branch will not tolerate individuals or groups of individuals who conduct themselves in a manner that is contrary to these aims and values and/or those defined in the National Rulebook, either within our meetings or when representing the Branch at any level.

We reaffirm our belief in the collective strength of the Branch and the practical expressions of solidarity within the Trade Union Movement as a whole and our Branch in particular.

This Branch is fully committed to ensuring that all levels of our structure, the broad experiences and lifestyles of our members are represented in a fair way. To this end the Branch will take practical steps to ensure proportionality (the ratio of gender) and fair representation (the balance of different members working conditions) are achieved and continually monitored within our structures and delegations. The Branch will also encourage and fully support Self Organised Groups within our structure, recognising their crucial role in strengthening the Branch.

In recognition of the unequal responsibilities that our women and part-time members generally have, our Branch welcomes any positive contributions members make in assisting the Branch to carry out its business and furthermore, will facilitate in a practical way any member who wishes to be involved to do so in recognition of his or her personal circumstance.

Our Branch is committed to ensuring every officer, convenor and steward receives the necessary training to enable him or her to discharge his or her assigned role effectively.

These Branch Aims and Values, as stated, provide the principles on which our constitution is founded and from which all our endeavours are based.

UNISON CWM TAF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA BRANCH

CORE BRANCH RULES 2022

1 **Branch Name**

The branch shall be called '**CWM TAF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA BRANCH**' of UNISON and is referred throughout the rules as "*the branch*"

2 **Aims of the Branch**

- a) to support and pursue the Aims and Objectives contained in the UNISON Rule Book, and the Objectives agreed by UNISON's National Executive Committee annually, and in particular:
- b) to achieve the aims and targets set annually through the branch assessment.

3 **Membership**

Eligibility for membership shall be in accordance with the Rules of the union

4 **Branch structure**

There will be an Annual General Meeting of the branch to confirm the election by ballot (Show of hands) of branch officers and members of the branch committee, to receive the branch accounts and report on branch development from the branch committee. The AGM may comprise one meeting or a series of aggregate meetings based on sections or geographical areas in order to maximise the active participation of members.

- a) The AGM will determine the basis of representation in the branch and the number of stewards and other representatives to be elected in each work group or workplace.
 - b) Other general meetings may be called by the branch committee or by 2.5% of the membership.
 - c) The quorum for any general meeting, including the annual meeting is 2.5%¹ of the branch at a single meeting or through aggregate meetings.
 - d) Sections will be established for each bargaining group covered by the branch to provide for the participation and representation of members in that section in accordance with rule 8 below.
 - e) The branch committee will comprise all branch officers (see rule 6 below), and Convenors, and will be responsible for the general organisation and development of the branch and for policy and decision making on matters affecting all members within the branch between general meetings.
 - f) The branch management group will be responsible for the day-to-day management of the branch in accordance with the decisions and authority delegated by the branch committee. Its membership and role is as described in rule 7 below.
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- g) There will be an Annual Branch Development Event, to examine the Branch Assessment targets and to identify Branch Projects for the coming year.

5 Branch Officers

- a) the branch shall elect the following officers annually (noting 5.b above) in accordance with rule 6c:
- Branch Secretary
 - Assistant Secretary x 2 (RCT& MT)
 - Chairperson.
 - Vice Chair
 - Treasurer
 - Assistant Treasurer
 - Education Co-ordinator
 - Lifelong Learning Co-ordinator
 - Equality Officer
 - Women's Officer
 - Black members Officer
 - Disabled Members Officer
 - Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual, Transgender Officer (LGBT)
 - Health and Safety Officer
 - Environment Officer
 - Communications Officer
 - International Officer
 - Membership Officer
 - Young Members Officer
 - Welfare Officer
 - Labour Link Officer
 - Retired Members' Secretary
 - Sports & Social Secretary

NOTE: Chairperson/ Vice-Chair must be from separate Local Government employer/geographical areas, unless no nomination from a specific geographical area

The list of Branch Officers to be added to or amended as necessary, either by National rule or by agreement of the Branch Committee or AGM for the effective operation of the Branch.

- Young Members Officer (who shall be elected by the Young Members SOG the definition of a 'young member' will be as per the national rules).
- Women's Officer (who shall be elected by the women's SOG)
- Black Members Officer (who shall be elected by Black & Ethnic members SOG).
- Disabled Members Officer (who shall be elected by Disabled members SOG)
- LGBT Officer (who shall be elected by LGBT SOG)
- Retired Members Officer (who shall be elected by Retired members SOG)

- b) The Branch Committee or any two members may nominate Branch Officers; except for the following:
- Labour Link Officer (who shall be elected by Labour Link members only).
- c) each section or individual employer areas within the branch shall elect a convenor (senior steward) from amongst the stewards in that section in accordance with rule 6d.
- d) election of branch officers
- i. nominations will be invited 12 weeks before the AGM and nomination forms will be made available through the branch web-site. All nominations must be received in writing at least 4 weeks before the AGM
 - ii. each nominee will be notified and given the right to withdraw not later than 3 weeks before the AGM.
 - iii. If there is more than one candidate, a vote will be held at the AGM. (Show of hands) or by other means agreed in line with NEC rules.
 - iv. In the event of a vote, tellers will be appointed from the meeting.
 - v. where no valid nomination has been received before the deadline, nominations may be called for and candidate elected at the AGM, (Show of hands) or endorsed by the branch committee subject to ratification by the next general meeting.
- e) election of convenors
- i. the process for nomination and election shall be made by the sectional stewards committee or where there is only one steward in the work place nomination will / can be agreed by Branch Committee.

6 Branch Committee

- a) Representation on the branch committee will be agreed by the AGM and will include:
- Branch officers
 - Representatives of self-organised groups
 - 1 convenor for each employer / section of employer.
- b) The branch committee shall administer branch business in accordance with UNISON rules and guidance.
- c) The quorum for the branch committee shall be 33% (one third) of the elected members of the committee.
- d) The branch committee shall ensure that sections within the branch are appropriately and equitably resourced to ensure the effective participation of members, recruitment and organisation, representation, and collective bargaining and campaigning on behalf of members in each section.

- e) The branch committee will establish arrangements for the individual representation of members or will be referred to the Region if appropriate.
- f) The branch committee shall meet *monthly*.
- g) On agreement between the Branch Secretary and Branch Chair, meetings will be convened using Virtual Platforms, with full decision-making powers.

7 Branch Management Group

- a) The Branch Management Group shall comprise the branch secretary, assistant branch secretaries, branch chair, branch treasurer, assistant treasurer.
- b) The Branch Management Group will meet monthly or as required to ensure the effective day to day management of the branch within the parameters of the decisions and guidance issued by the branch committee.
- c) On agreement between the Branch Secretary and Branch Chair, meetings will be convened using Virtual Platforms, with full decision-making powers

8 Sections

- a) Sections comprise all members within the relevant service group and/or bargaining group and will have autonomy within the branch in respect of collective bargaining with their employer(s) only, subject to the policies and any guidelines and procedures of the branch, region and national union
- b) Sections will be led by a convenor elected in accordance with rule 5hi and who will be the senior accredited representative within the section, and will chair a committee of all accredited representatives within the section.

9 Conduct of meetings

- a) All meetings will be conducted in a fair and democratic manner.
- b) All meetings will be advertised widely as far in advance as possible (in the case of the AGM, notification will be advertised as widely as possible at least 12 weeks before the meeting (or first aggregate meeting)).
- c) The procedures to be used at the meeting will be explained clearly.
- d) The branch will maintain records of all meetings and other appropriate records to enable the branch to function.
- e) On agreement between the Branch Secretary and Branch Chair, meetings will be convened using Virtual Platforms, with full decision-making powers

10 Media communications

- a) Communications to the media on behalf of the branch shall be made only by officer(s) authorised by the committee. Branch Secretary, Assistant Branch Secretary, Branch chair, Communication Officer.
- b) Those officers identified will receive the appropriate training.

11 Affiliations

- a) Affiliations to relevant constituency Labour Parties will be decided by the labour Link Committee.
- b) Affiliations to Trade Councils shall be determined by the AGM or Branch Committee.

12 Finance

The branch shall keep a bank/building society account in the name of the branch and will maintain a financial record of all assets and transactions in accordance with UNISON guidelines

13 Donations

Donations shall be agreed by the AGM or branch committee in accordance with the union's policies and objectives and subject to provisions of national rule.

Branch Charity/Charities

- a) The monies available for donation will be funded to a maximum of £1000
- b) Half (£500) shall be donated to "*There for You*" UNISON's charity for our members.
- c) The remaining half (£500) shall be paid to the charity/charities as decided annually at the AGM from nominations received.
- d) If no nomination is received for other charities the second half of the total £1000 shall be donated to "*There for You*" UNISON's charity for our members.
- e) There shall be a limit of two charities agreed at the AGM.
- f) Members who nominate a charity are required to attend the AGM to propose their nominated charity

14 Expenses

Rates of expenses for members attending meetings or carrying out other activities on behalf of the branch shall be agreed by the AGM or Branch Committee in accordance with the Scheme for Branch Expenses contained in the Branch Finances Handbook.

15 Honoraria

- a) Any honorarium paid to a member of the Branch Committee will only be made in accordance with the Scheme for Honoraria Payments, which is outlined in the Branch Finances Handbook.
- b) No honorarium payment will be made to a Branch Committee member without achieving at least 75% attendance at Branch Committee meetings throughout the year.
- c) No honorarium payment will be made to an individual who is not able to evidence they have carried out Trade Union duties/activities throughout the year.
- d) Branch Committee may make recommendations for payment of honorarium to an individual who has not achieved 75% attendance at Branch Committee, giving specific reasons.

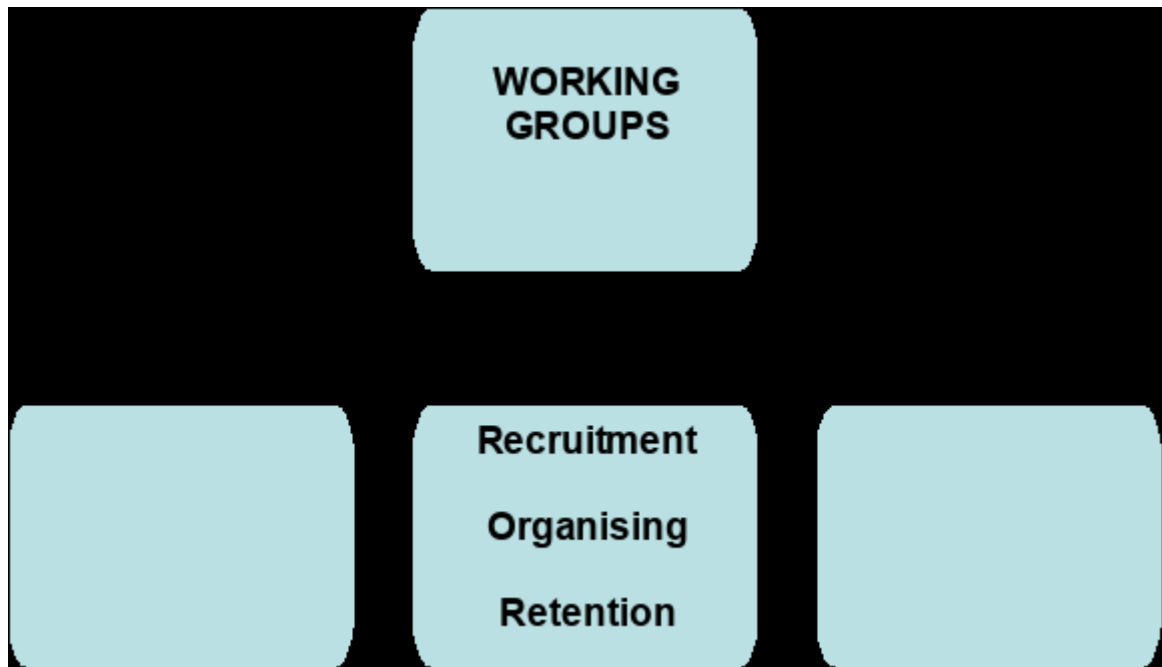
16 Branch staff

- a) The branch secretary will be responsible for the employment, direction and supervision of any staff employed by the branch consistent with employment law and current good practice.
- b) In the event of any first stage hearings of staff disciplinary or grievance matters, the branch secretary will be joined by another senior branch officer other than the branch chair.
- c) Any appeal arising from a first stage grievance or disciplinary hearing will be heard by the branch chair and other senior branch officers not involved at the first stage hearing.
- d) The outcome of any disciplinary or grievance hearing will remain confidential and the outcome only will be reported to the branch committee on its conclusion.

17 Approval / alteration to Branch Rules

- a) Branch rules must be agreed by two thirds of members present and voting at a quorate General Branch meeting.
- b) Branch rules must be approved in accordance with UNISON's procedures.
- c) Any changes to branch rules must be agreed and approved in the same way.

BRANCH OBJECTIVES FOR 2024/25



ELECTION OF BRANCH CHARITY



About There for You

- debt advice;
- listening and support;
- financial assistance;
- breaks and holidays;
- personal advice.

When members come to There for You – particularly those with financial problems – simple solutions are rare. We can provide financial grants to relieve the pressure while long-term answers are found.

All There for You grants and activities are paid for by donations from UNISON members and UNISON itself.

Bucket and spade appeal

Our welfare breaks are paid for by money raised through the bucket and spade appeal. You can help by donating money, organising fundraising activities at your branch or helping raise the profile of the appeal where you work.

Octopus prize draw

Octopus is 'There for You's monthly prize draw. As well as raising money for the charity, the Octopus draw helps to raise awareness about our work.

At least 50% of the proceeds from each month's ticket sales go towards prizes and 40% is put into There for You funds to help members in need. The remaining 10% is used to pay administration costs.