

UNISON NORTH WEST REGION

Regional Black members Committee - Constitution

1. TITLE

The Organisation shall be called the 'The North West Regional Black Members Committee'

2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 2.1. To represent the views of UNISON Black Members within the North West Region;
- 2.2. To promote, encourage and formulate Education and Training for Black Members within the Region in liaison with the Regional Education Committee;
- 2.3. To encourage the establishment of Black Members Groups within the Region;
- 2.4. To give support and advice to Black Members Groups within the Region;
- 2.5. To ensure that the North West Region develops strategies to develop policies against Racial Discrimination and racial harassment and to ensure that the Region develops strategies to challenge institutionalised racism within the Union, workplaces and elsewhere;
- 2.6. To develop strategies and take initiatives in the North West Region in order that the particular needs of Black Members in all issues relating to conditions of service are identified and provided for;
- 2.7. To build links in partnership with the locally recognised established community groups directly under threat of incitement to racism and racial violence by jointly Campaigning on these issues;
- 2.8. To promote and formulate publicity and communication links for Black Members in liaison with the Regional Publicity and Campaigning Committee

3. MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Committee will be open to the following Delegates from:-

- 3.1. UNISON Branch Black Members Groups in the North West Region;
- 3.2. UNISON North West Regional Women's Committee (who are Black);
- 3.3. UNISON North West Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Committee (who are Black);
- 3.4. UNISON North West Regional Disabled Members Committee (who are Black);
- 3.5. UNISON North West Young Members Forum (who are Black);
- 3.6. Individual Black Members from UNISON Branches where no Black Members Group currently exists;
- 3.7. Each of the Service Groups that UNISON organises in

4. ORDINARY MEETINGS

- 4.1. The Committee shall meet on three occasions each year
- 4.2. That the venue for ordinary meetings will be rotated within the region
- 4.3. Conduct at meetings should remain friendly and accessible in accordance with UNISON policies;
- 4.4. Preparation of the agenda and items of business for the Regional Black Members Committee shall be the responsibility of the Chairperson/Vice Chairperson in conjunction with the Servicing Officer.

5. QUORUM

- 5.1. The Quorum for the meetings will be at least representation from four Branches with the Region.

6. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (A.G.M.)

DATE OF THE AGM

- 6.1. The A.G.M. shall be held at least 4 weeks prior to the announced date of the relevant year's National Black Members' conference.
- 6.2. Agenda items and motions to the A.G.M. shall be submitted in writing to the Regional returning Officer for this Committee, no later than fourteen days prior to the date of the A.G.M.
- 6.3. Preparation of the agenda and items of business for the AGM shall be the responsibility of the Chairperson/Vice Chairperson where appropriate in conjunction with the Servicing Officer.

7. SUB-COMMITTEE

- 7.1 The Sub-Committee will report regularly to the Chairperson and to the Committee through a standing agenda item at all meetings.

8. ELECTIONS

At its AGM the Committee will elect the following:-

Officers –

- 8.1. Chairperson
- 8.2. Vice Chairperson
- 8.3. Secretary
- 8.4. Disabled Members
- 8.5. Women's
- 8.6. LGBT
- 8.7. Equalities Officer
- 8.8. Education/Training Officer
- 8.9. Publicity/Communications
- 8.10. International Officer
- 8.11. Young Members Officer
- 8.11. Welfare Officer
- 8.12. Labour Link

- 8(A) At least one of the Elected Officers for the roles of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson shall be female.

(NB. Officers roles shall include raising issues directly relevant to Black Members at all appropriate forums and to provide written report back where practicable)

9. NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICER POSITIONS

Nominations for Officer positions shall be submitted in writing to the Chair or servicing officer of the NWRBMC no later than 14 working days prior to the announced date of the Annual General Meeting or within a timetable agreed at a committee meeting.

10. DELEGATES TO OTHER BODIES

The Annual General Meeting shall also elect Delegates/Representatives to the following bodies (ensure a gender balance in each case)

- 10.1. National Black Members Committee x 3
- 10.2. National Black Members Committee – substitute x 1
- 10.3. National Black Members Conference x 2
- 10.4. Regional Council x 2
- 10.5. Regional council – substitute x 2
- 10.6. Regional Committee x 1
- 10.7. Regional Women's Forum x 1

- 10.8. Regional Labour Link Committee x 1
- 10.9. TUC Black Workers Conference x 1
- 10.10. TUC Congress x 1
- 10.11. North West TUC x 2
- 10.12. National Black Members Conference – Standing Orders Committee x 1

Delegates/Representatives to other bodies/forums shall provide written report backs where practicable.

11. CONDUCT OF MEETINGS/BUSINESS

- 11.1. Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with the accepted guidelines for the conduct of meetings as operated throughout UNISON. Copies of these guidelines are available from the servicing officer.
- 11.2. Members who represent the NWRBMC are to be mindful of the role they play in representing the organisation to our colleagues in other parts of UNISON and other organisations, and are expected to abide by this and other appropriate codes of conduct related to such forums.

12. ALTERATIONS TO THIS CONSTITUTIONS

Alterations to this Constitution shall only be made at an Annual General Meeting.