



150th Anniversary of the TUC

Be part of our Major Organising Initiative – “150 Organisers”

You will be aware that next year's sees the 150th anniversary of the formation of the TUC, born here in our region. We want to celebrate this with activism, and so in January 2018 we will be launching “**150 Organisers**” – our keynote project for 2018 and we want you to be part of it.

The Aim

Our aim is to build on the work unions do to support reps and activists like you to meet the modern day challenges to trades unions – whether that be low membership density, a diminishing and / or ageing reps base, or attacks on terms and conditions of employment.

We will sign up 150 union reps in the North West who we will work with over a 12 month period to provide practical and material support for their workplace organising campaigns. The reps will come from across our whole movement - public and private sector, large and small unions, and will reflect the diversity of the world of work.

So we want you to sign up to be part of the programme. You will most likely already be a union rep in your workplace, perhaps undergone some union or TUC training, and keen to get more involved. You may have a specific campaign you are involved in, or may just want to focus on building the union.

Our registration system is now live and we are actively recruiting our 150 participants. We will make sure there is a balance between reps from large and small unions, public and private sector, and that the participants represent the diversity of our movement and our communities. There is a sign up page on Eventbrite where you can tell us about yourself and register to be part of the project's first event, our Launch convention.

Here's the details:-

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/150-organisers-launch-convention-tickets-37937120950>

What will the programme involve?

The Programme will begin with an **Organising Convention** which will be held on Saturday 27th January at the Liner Hotel Liverpool. We hope that all of the 150 participants will be able to join us for this event which we hope will inspire and energise them for the year ahead. The day will consist of speakers and workshops aimed at equipping participants to map out and create an **Organising Plan** for their priority campaign for the forthcoming year.

Participants will receive both physical and virtual tools to assist them – we want you to feel part of something special and want you to know that you will be on a supported journey, so there will be branded goodies, top tips, web based support and much more!

The project is supported by our TUC unions, and individual unions may be offering reps their own tailored support - we are working together on this to make it a success.

What will happen after the Convention?

We want you to get stuck into the project, and keep an **Organising Diary** of what work you are doing, recording successes and also lessons learnt along the way. TUC North West will establish a monthly newsletter, and an area of our website for the programme, where you can share stories, requests for help, and celebrate successes with other programme participants.

Participants will work on the **Organising Campaigns** in their workplaces, and we will provide regular 'check in' and 'meet up' events throughout the year. You can attend as many or as few of these as you want, as the priority is the work you are doing in your workplace – we don't want to take time away from that!

You will also be offered support, and be invited to participate in some Key events during the year including:-

- Would you like a senior trade union figure to come and visit your workplace at some point during your campaign? We can arrange this to provide a boost or support for your work
- We hope to invite all the participants to play some part in the TUC Congress which will take place in Manchester in September 2018, and provides a great opportunity to showcase the work they are doing.
- We will be coming out to speak to / write about and video participants over the course of the year, to share at events and in publications.
- We hope to arrange for our 150 Organisers to attend the World Congress of UNIGlobal, one of the world trade union confederations which will take place in Liverpool in June 2018. You will have the chance to meet 3500 world trades unionists and attend the congress session "Breaking Through" which highlights UNIGlobal's worldwide organising campaigns, to inspire you further
- At the end of the year we will hold a celebratory event and party for participants, to take stock and celebrate the work we have done. At its simplest, we will total up new members recruited / agreements reached / new reps and activists trained. More valuable will be the reflective experiences of the participants on what worked and what didn't in their campaigns.

I hope you will consider signing up and taking part in our project to build trades union strength, organisation and influence here in the North West. Registration is now open so do go online and make sure you reserve your place.

If you have any questions about the programme you can email us at nwcampaigns@tuc.org.uk