

UNISON National Delegate Conference · 14-17 June 2022
and Service Group Conferences · 12-13 June 2022
Brighton Centre

About Conference **2022**



Checklist

Please remember to bring the following documents with you when you come to Brighton.



- This booklet
- National executive council annual report
- Financial accounts
- Credential card with photograph
- Conference document with motions and amendments
- Composite booklet
- Accommodation confirmation

Welcome to UNISON National Delegate Conference 2022

Welcome to About Conference 2022 which contains information for delegates attending the UNISON National Delegate Conference in Brighton on 14-17 June 2022 and the service group conferences held on 12 and 13 June 2022. This guide contains notes for delegates about the venue and information on fringe meetings and UNIZONE activities. It is designed to enhance your experience of conference, and get the most out of what's on offer. Whether you are a first time delegate or have been before, this is the guide for you.

Enjoy the conference.



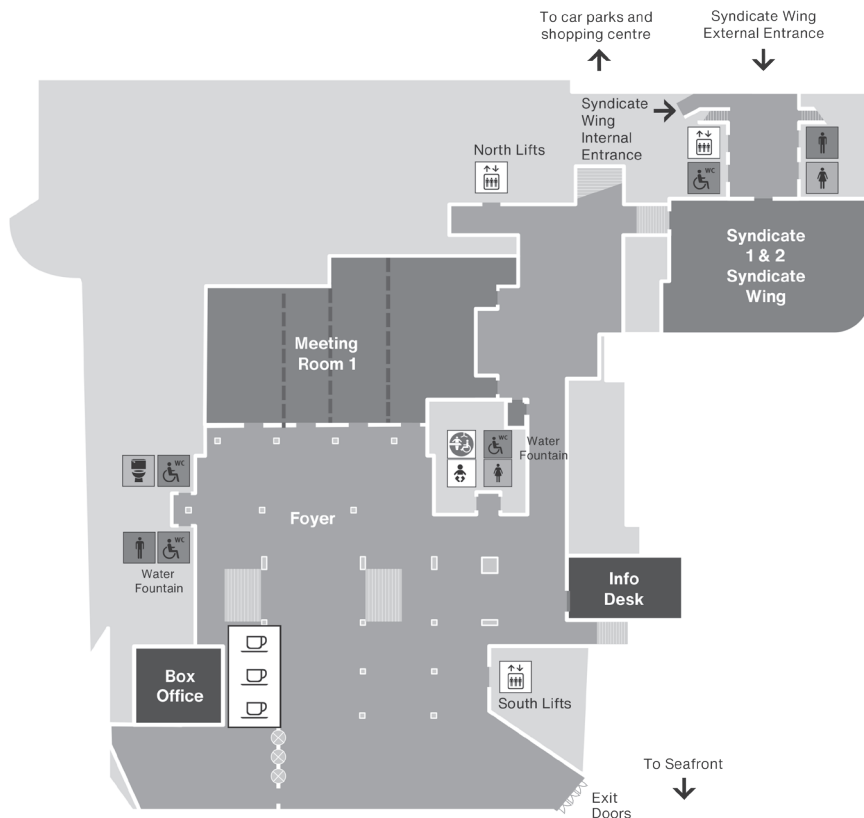
Christina McAnea
UNISON General Secretary

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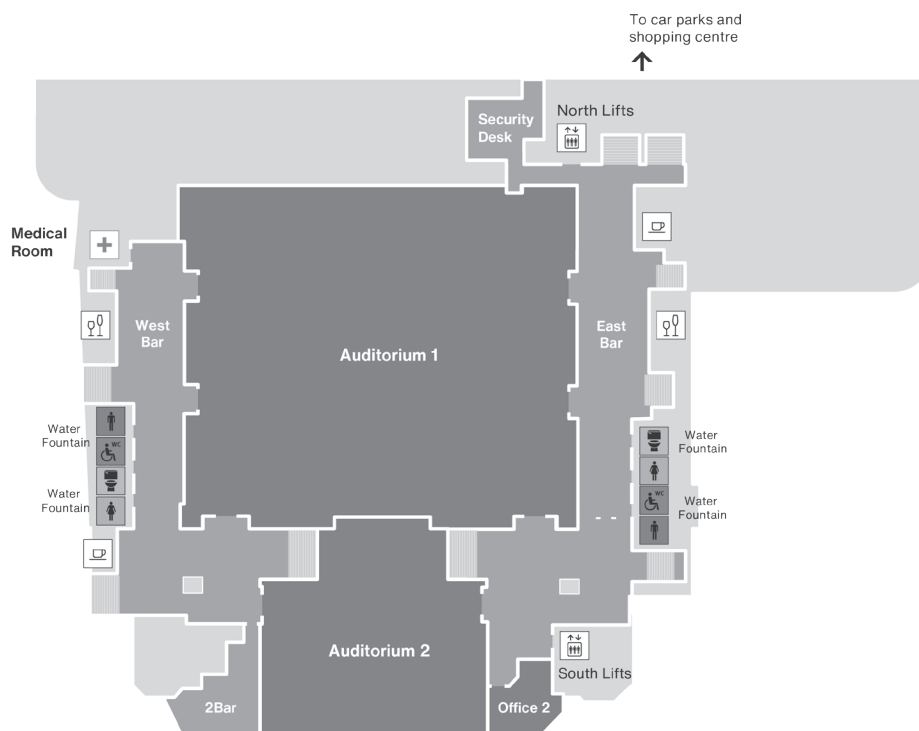
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1. Floor plans of the Brighton Centre

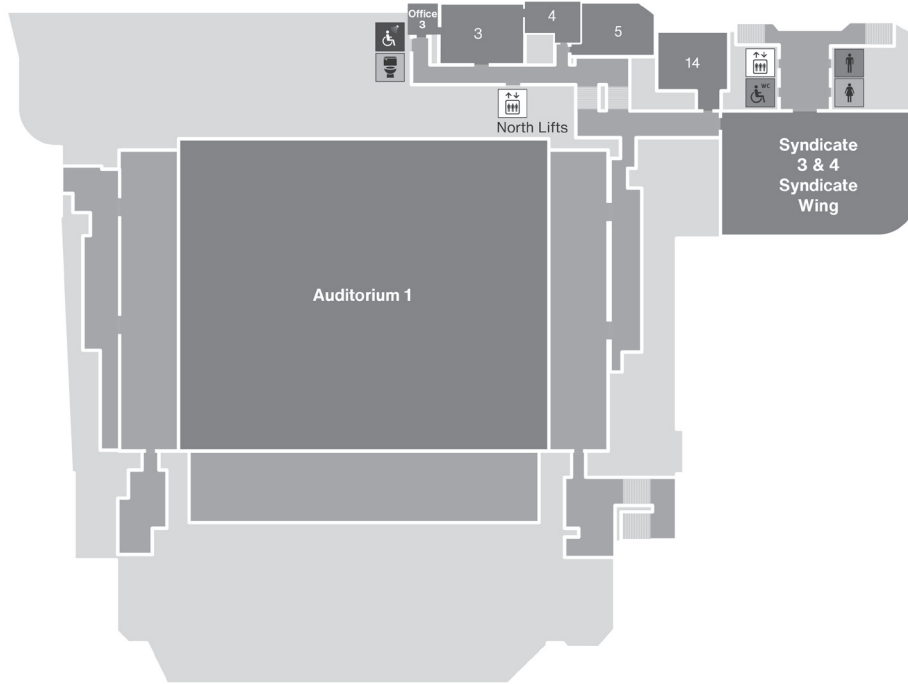
Ground floor



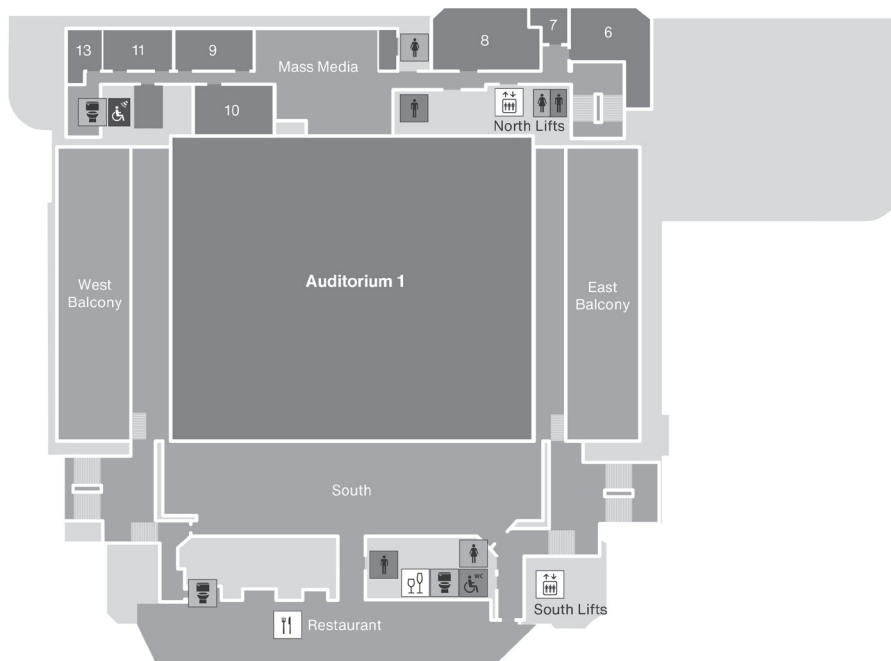
First floor



Second floor



Third floor



2. Information on the Brighton Centre

Conference venue

Brighton Centre
King's Road
Brighton
East Sussex
BN1 2GR

Information line: 01273 290131

Access line: 01273 292695

Email: brightoncentre@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Web: www.brightoncentre.co.uk

How to get there

The Brighton Centre is located in the heart of the city on the Brighton seafront and is easily accessible via public transport and within easy walking distance of Brighton mainline railway station, Pool Valley coach station, city centre bus stops and taxi ranks.

By air

London Gatwick Airport is 28 miles from Brighton and can be reached in half an hour by either road or rail (a railway station is located inside the airport terminal).

By rail

Brighton is served by direct rail links from many major central London stations and has frequent services from Portsmouth, Worthing, Lewes, Seaford, Eastbourne and Hastings.

For details of train services please refer to:

→ www.nationalrail.co.uk

By coach

All National Express coaches arrive into Brighton coach station (Pool Valley) which is situated just off the seafront. It is a 5 minute walk to the Brighton Centre.

By road

Driving to Brighton & Hove is simple with the A27 connecting the city to the East & the West and the M23/A23 linking Brighton from the North and London via the M25 London orbital motorway.

Discounted car parking

Delegates are offered a discounted car parking rate of £20 per 24 hours at the Regency Square car park, King's Road, BN1 2FG. This is situated along the seafront from the venue.

Upon entering the car park take a ticket from the barrier. On the last day of conference, or the day you are leaving, take your ticket to the Brighton Centre information desk located in the foyer where you can pay for your parking and have your ticket validated. Once your ticket has been validated you will be able to use it at the car park exit barrier.

Please be aware that if you pay and validate your ticket at the car park, you will pay the standard car parking tariff. Tickets are unable to be validated after the last day of conference, all tickets must be paid for and validated on the final day of conference (or before, if you leave sooner)

For details on the car park can be found here:

→ www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/content/parking-and-travel/parking/regency-square-car-park-central-brighton

Other parking

Parking in Brighton is expensive so if you do drive to the Brighton Centre please be aware that it does not have its own car park. There are lots of car parks close by and three NCP car parks adjacent to the main building.

The Russell Road car park is in the same block as the Brighton Centre and the pedestrian access from the car park is located at the corner of Russell Road and Cannon Place. Car parks Churchill 1 and Churchill 2 are located to the north side of Russell Road.

For more information on parking, including charges, please visit their websites:

→ www.ncp.co.uk/find-a-car-park/car-parks/brighton-centre-russell-road

→ www.churchillsquare.com/guest-services/#parking

Blue badge holders

If you are a Blue badge holder, there are lay-bys at the front and back of the centre where you can drop off or pick up. If you park in these areas be aware that there is a 3 hour limit.

Blue badge regulations apply to other on-street parking. For more information about accessible parking in and around the centre, please visit the Brighton city council website:

→ www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/contact/parking-and-travel/parking/blue-badge-scheme-and-disabled-parking

Taxis

Taxis you can hail are easily identifiable by their aqua and white livery. They can also be booked or picked up from various ranks around the city. Local taxi companies include:-

- Brighton & Hove Radio Cabs:
01273 204060 / 01273 414141
- Brighton & Hove Streamline Taxis:
01273 202020 / 01273 747474
- Brighton & Hove City Cabs:
01273 205205

Venue information

The Brighton Centre's Covid measures – keeping you safe

The health and safety remains the Brighton Centre's number one priority and as we move towards living with Covid, they continue to work to ensure the venue is a safe space for everyone who visits them. They are using fresh air only ventilation and enhanced cleaning measures remain in place.

In return, they strongly encourage you to wear a face covering when visiting if you can, practice good hand hygiene and consider whether you should attend a public event if you are feeling unwell.

Please make sure you are up to date with the latest government guidance and check the Brighton Centre website before travelling to conference:

→ brightoncentre.co.uk/visiting-us

Conference desk – foyer, ground floor

This is where you should go if you have any queries concerning the administration of conference or if you lose your conference credentials. The desk will be open:

- Saturday
12pm – 5.30pm
- Sunday
8.30am – 5.30pm
- Monday
8.30am – 6.30pm
- Tuesday to Thursday
8.30am – 5.30pm
- Friday
8.30am – 4.30pm

Conference hall – Auditorium 1, 1st floor

The hall is laid out with seating for delegates in their regions in the main body of the hall, with the platform and rostrum control at the front of the hall. Seating for visitors, sharer 2's and guests will be in the south balcony on the 3rd floor. This can be accessed by the stairs or lifts in the foyer at the seafront side of the building.

Conference sessions

- Local Government Conference
9.30am Sunday 12 June
Auditorium 1
- WET conference
10am Sunday 12 June
Auditorium 2
- Energy conference
10am Monday 13 June
Auditorium 2
- National Delegate Conference
10am Tuesday 14 June and from
9.30am Wednesday to Friday
Auditorium 1

On each day there will be a lunch break between 12.30pm and 2pm when the conference hall will be closed.

Standing orders committees

- WET and Energy
Office 2, 1st floor
- Local Government
Meeting Room 1c/d, ground floor
- National Delegate
Meeting Room 5, 2nd floor.

UNIZONE – foyer, ground floor

The UNIZONE is an interactive exhibition of UNISON's key campaigning, bargaining and organising work. UNIZONE 2022 will feature a changing programme of displays and interactive events. A full programme is highlighted in section 6 of this guide.

The UNIZONE will close on Thursday evening.

Exhibition area – foyer, ground floor

The exhibition area contains a range of stands representing services to members plus a range of stalls on behalf of campaigning and voluntary organisations.

Exhibitions will close on Thursday evening.

Catering

The main conference catering area is the FEED café in the main foyer. Drinks and snacks will also be available from café east and west on the first floor.

Please note that the Brighton Centre is cashless. Visa and MasterCard credit/debit cards (not AMEX) are accepted.

Cloakroom

A free cloakroom service will be available on the ground floor. The cloakroom will be open:-

- Sunday to Thursday
8.30am – 6.30pm
- Friday
8.30am – 4.30pm

Cash machines

Cash machines are available at the Brighton Centre in the foyer and in the east bar. Please note there are withdrawal charges for using these machines. All major banks are within five minutes walking distance from the Brighton Centre.

Wi-fi

Free wi-fi is available – no log in ID or password required.

Photographs

If you require a photograph for your credentials, please go to the conference desk.

Personal pronouns

It is now possible to add your personal pronouns to the online conference system so that they can appear on your credentials. For information on how to do this, please visit the UNISON website, click on events, choose your conference and scroll to the documents at the bottom of the page. If you require help, please email the conference team, conferences@unison.co.uk or telephone, 0207 121 5123.

Quiet rooms

The quiet room is a shared space for prayer and quiet contemplation and is available for all delegates to use, regardless of faith. Please contact the conference desk for further details.

First aid

The first aid room is located at the end of the west bar on the first floor. If you require first aid assistance you can either go to the first aid room, contact a Brighton Centre steward or the conference desk for first aid to be called.

Card votes

Card votes can be collected from the card vote collection point on the ground floor. This is located in the corridor leading to the cityside of the venue, opposite the cloakroom. Opening times:

Local Government Conference:

- Saturday
2pm – 4.30pm
- Sunday
8.30am – 3pm

National Delegate Conference:

- Sunday
4pm – 6pm
- Monday
8.30am – 4.30pm
- Tuesday
8.30am – 5pm
- Wednesday
8.30am – 12.30pm

If you do not collect your card votes during these times, please go to the finance office in meeting room 6 on the 3rd floor, accessed via the cityside lifts at the back of the building. Please note if a card vote is called and you have not collected your card votes, you will not be able to collect them until after the count.

Card votes for WET and Energy conferences will be available from outside of auditorium 2.

Access and Facilitation

UNISON recognises the importance of, and accepts responsibility for, making conference as accessible as possible. All delegates have had the opportunity to register for provision of services to make the conference accessible to them.

UNISON staff member, Raj Vekaria, is the conference access officer. Questions about access and facilitation should be addressed to the conference desk.

The Brighton Centre's access information can be found on their website.

→ <https://brightoncentre.co.uk/access>

3. Essential information for delegates

Key figures at conference

The president of the union presides over conference and chairs all the debates. The two vice-presidents may deputise for the president.

With the co-operation of delegates, conference business is processed quickly and without great formality. There are occasions, however, when the president will need to exercise their authority including the right to make a ruling on a question of standing orders or a point of order. The president's ruling is final.

The president also has the authority to take action in respect of any delegate in response to any behaviour which is deemed to be inappropriate or unacceptable (for example causing a disturbance and refusing to obey the call to order, interrupting a speaker, engaging in behaviour which is insulting or otherwise disrespectful either at the conference, or at any official event connecting with conference or on social media). The president may delegate the exercise of this authority. This authority includes issuing the delegate with an informal warning, preventing them from speaking in any debate or motion, a temporary removal of credentials for all or part of the conference, or otherwise expulsion from conference. Where appropriate, consultation and discussions will take place with the relevant regional delegates. Such behaviour may also be dealt with under the union's disciplinary procedures.

National Executive Council members sit on the platform together with the general secretary and the assistant general secretaries. They are called on to move reports, statements, motions, amendments to rule and amendments in the name of the National Executive Council. They will also speak for the National Executive Council in reply to some of the debates.

Standing orders committee chairperson, vice-chairperson and secretary come to the platform on a daily basis to give reports on behalf of the standing orders committee.

Conference procedures

Details of conference procedures can be found in the conference documents 2022 booklet together with texts of the motions, amendments and amendments to rule.

Delegates' credentials

Each delegate has been issued with a delegate's credential and this should be visible at all times while you are in the conference venue. Delegates who have their credentials do not need to register at the conference information desk before entering conference.

Credentials include a unique bar code which can be read by a hand-held scanning system. This assists with verifying attendance and monitoring fair representation and proportionality among delegates speaking at the rostrum.

Shared delegations

Shared delegations help to meet the criteria of fair representation and proportionality. Shared delegations mean that a branch can elect two delegates who will share the delegate place on a 'job share' basis.

Sharer 1 will receive the delegate badge in their conference pack and Sharer 2 will receive the visitor badge.

It is important that you know who you are sharing a seat with as you will need to arrange to meet at conference in order to swap badges at least once.

Both Sharer 1 and Sharer 2 badges must have the names and photographs of both sharers on them. If there is a photograph missing, both sharers should come to the conference information desk on arrival where a photo can be taken and replacement badges issued.

The Sharer 1 badge is the delegate badge and allows access to the conference floor to sit in the delegate seat and vote on the motions. The Sharer 2 badge is the visitor badge and allows access only to the visitor gallery to watch the proceedings. Sharers cannot be on the conference floor together at any time.

Both Sharer 1 and Sharer 2 badges will allow access into the conference venue but only Sharer 1 badge will allow access onto the conference floor.

Sharers should contact each other and decide which sessions to attend as the delegate. Sharers should then arrange to meet to ensure the delegate has the correct colour badge.

If you have the Sharer 1 delegate badge but you are leaving the conference early, you must hand this badge to the other sharer or leave it at the conference information desk on your departure so the other sharer can pick it up and use it for the remaining sessions.

Access to the conference hall

The UNISON stewards on the doors are volunteers and adhere to a strict brief to assist the smooth running of conference. If you are not wearing proper credentials with a photograph you will not gain access to any part of the conference hall. These stewards will also operate the scanning system on the badge bar codes each time a delegate enters the hall.

Reducing our impact on the environment

As a trade union with strong environmental policies we need to keep paperwork to a minimum. We provide delegates with the opportunity, via the online conference system, to opt out of being sent paper copies of our conference materials. All these documents are available online via the conference app or the conference website. We will only print the minimum number of documents required. Once these documents have been distributed no further replacements will be available. Please make sure you retain your documents for the duration of conference. Recycling bins are situated at the back of the conference hall.

Conduct of delegates

All delegates, visitors, staff and facilitators are expected to behave in a courteous manner. Aggressive, offensive, intimidatory, disrespectful or unacceptable behaviour will not be tolerated. This applies to all aspects of communication, at or in connection with the conference, including postings on social media. Complaints will be treated seriously.

The president has authority to take action in response to any complaint received or of their own initiative in respect of any delegate whose behaviour is deemed to be inappropriate. This authority includes issuing the delegate with an informal warning, preventing them from speaking in any debate or motion, excluding a delegate from all or part of the conference, or otherwise expulsion from conference. The exercise of the president's authority is separate from any decision to deal with the behaviour under the union's disciplinary procedures.

As trade unionists we do not expect any of these problems to arise. However, your regional secretary and regional representatives are available in the first instance for advice and support at this conference. Issues of unsatisfactory conduct by anyone attending conference can also be raised with the conference information desk.

Filming and photography at UNISON conferences

UNISON's conferences are a key part of our democracy. Delegates are able to make their voices heard and to vote on the policies which will govern our union's policy and campaigns.

As such, we want all our members to know about conferences and how important our democratic systems are – we believe this is an important part of being an open, democratic organisation. However, we also value the privacy of our members. National Delegate Conference and Local Government Conference are filmed on behalf of UNISON. This footage provides a vital record of conference for internal use; and some footage may be used on our website to promote UNISON and our democratic processes.

UNISON accredited photographers may be taking pictures of the main debates, fringe meetings and other public areas at all UNISON conferences. These photographs may be used in the union's publications for members or on our website, social media sites eg. Facebook and Twitter, to promote the union. If you do not wish to be filmed or photographed:

- refuse if you are approached for an individual photograph or video interview
- sit in the identified 'no filming zone' whilst in the conference hall
- if you speak in a debate inform Rostrum Control you do not wish to be filmed.

If you are planning to use a camera at conference (with or without voice recording) for the purposes of using the images and/or sound on behalf of the union, whether employed by UNISON or as an activist who may be using the image in a branch, regional or sector newsletter:

- always ask an individual for their consent and explain the use of the picture e.g. these images may be used by UNISON in our own publications or on our website to illustrate conference
- when it involves a large group – images of a delegation or the whole of the conference floor etc – you clearly cannot seek individual permissions. Instead, a statement will be posted at conference explaining that the event will be photographed/filmed and individuals who object to being included in this will be told who to speak to in order to resolve their concerns.

Recording at Conference

No recordings of any sessions during the Conference including conference sessions and fringe meetings should be made without informing the Chair of the session and the agreement of all those present.

Flash photography

The national disabled members' committee has indicated that flash photography can cause visual impairment and disorientation and interferes with signed communications. Therefore the national executive council has decided that there will be no flash photography at National Delegate Conference.

No smoking

A no smoking policy exists within the Brighton Centre. This includes e-cigarettes.

4. Social media

UNISON Conference App

Enhance your experience of conference and have the information you need at your fingertips.

It couldn't be easier with the smartphone app for android phones and iPhones. There is also a web version containing the agenda and online version of the conference guide. And you can use it on tablets too.

Get the full conference agenda and standing orders, use the floor plans of the Brighton centre to find your meeting or event and connect with other delegates by viewing their posts and pictures or posting your own.

Download the Attendify app from the Google play or App Store. Create your profile, click on Search, click on Have an event code, the event codes are:

- Local Government conference: ulgc22
- National Delegate conference: undc22

The small print

All posting and usage of the app must be in line with the UNISON Rule Book and the Terms of Service of the App developer. Everyone should use social media safely and responsibly and follow the guide to conduct in the 'Working Together' menu of the app. Any attendee at the conference will be able to view photos and comments put up via the app, so be careful what you post and don't name or post photos of people without their permission.

If you see content that you don't think is appropriate, report it and it will be referred to UNISON staff acting as moderators. UNISON staff reserve the right to remove any content from the app or to ban any app user not following UNISON rules or otherwise misusing the app and their rights within it.

Send us your feedback

Tell us about your experience of using the app - you can email us with feedback or any questions at conferences@unison.co.uk

Twitter

UNISON will be using social media to update delegates, members and others on what's going on at conference. Follow us on @unisontweets. To be part of the conversation, use the conference hash tag:

- #uwet22 – for WET conference
- #uenergy22 - for Energy conference
- #ulgc22 – for Local government conference
- #undc22 – for National delegate conference

Charging Lockers

If you need to charge your smart phone or device during conference, you can get a key for our charging lockers from the conference desk.

5. Health and safety information

Making UNISON conferences a healthy and safe environment

UNISON has in place a health and safety policy which applies to all the activities that it undertakes, including the organisation and administration of all its conferences.

UNISON is committed to its responsibility to provide delegates, sharers, visitors, and staff to conferences with a healthy and safe environment. UNISON will comply with all health and safety statutory requirements and codes of practice, as well as our own policies and procedures.

To fulfil its commitment to ensuring that our conferences are healthy and safe environments UNISON works closely with representatives of its staff, venue management, contractors and all service providers. In the event of any health and safety issues and problems arising, these should be directed immediately to a member of staff or raised directly with the conference desk.

Throughout conference UNISON continually monitors the venue and its environs, often in conjunction with a staff health and safety representative, to maintain and ensure a healthy and safe environment.

Covid 19

We still need to be careful to keep each other safe as COVID-19 is still transmissible, and delegates are encouraged to wear masks when moving around the venue, although this is no longer a legal requirement

Please self-isolate if you test Covid positive or experience any COVID symptoms.

Accidents/injuries/near misses

Please report any accidents/injuries/near misses to the conference desk, where they will be recorded on an incident record and investigation form. Where appropriate, these will be investigated, and the necessary remedial action will be undertaken.

Evacuation procedures

A pre-recorded message will be played before the start of conference each day, with a summary of the evacuation procedures detailed on a large screen. Please take time to familiarise yourself with this information.

The Brighton Centre – Emergency Procedures

1. Upon hearing the alarm (intermittent)
 - the alarm will be silenced whilst the activated area is checked.
 - standby and await further information.
2. Upon hearing the alarm (continuous ringing)
 - leave the building by the nearest available exit – follow all instructions given by Brighton centre staff and duty manager.
 - do not wait to collect personal belongings (e.g. coats, handbags) and do not wait around for others. do not use the lifts.
 - do not run or panic – there is no need. move swiftly but calmly.
 - close the door if you are the last to leave the room you are in.
 - proceed to the assembly point at the junction of russell road/west street at the rear of the building.
 - wait at the assembly point for further instruction from brighton centre staff.
 - do not re-enter the building without permission.
3. If you should discover a fire (and no alarm has yet been sounded)
 - operate the alarm from the nearest alarm point.
 - proceed as above.

6. UNIZONE

Conference is much more than just speeches in the main hall. It's also a great opportunity to share ideas about campaigning and organising and to find out more about key issues in depth. If this is what you've come to conference for, then UNIZONE is the place for you. Located on the ground floor the UNIZONE is open Sunday–Thursday from 8:45am and closes at 5:30pm.

UNIZONE offers a great range of interactive sessions, exhibitions, talks, specialist advice and fun.

This year UNIZONE will be showcasing the following:

Sunday 12 June

Come on down – the price is right

Come on down to meet us and find out how far local government wages really go.

Will your wages be right to pay for your all your essential outgoings?

Can a local government salary stretch to cover clothing the kids? a summer holiday? Saving up for a broken boiler?

Find out how the cost of living is impacting on your colleagues.

Monday 13 June

Young workers and apprenticeships

Visit us and find out what UNISON is doing around young workers and apprenticeships in local government and test your own knowledge by completing our short quiz. Take away UNISON materials that will equip you with the tools and expertise to build your role in protecting and securing decent employment for young workers and apprentices.

Pensions

Come and find out about UNISON's Campaign for better Defined Contribution Pension Schemes for members already in these scheme and why this is such a crucial area for organising in the workplace for UNISON. Also how we can defend Defined Benefit Schemes such as the LGPS and the NHS pension Schemes. Get an update on equality and pensions.

Education

Us neither, but now is your opportunity to put that right! Come and join us at the Unizone where you can compete – on your own or in a pair – by answering easy questions on what our members in education do day-in-day-out. Not only will you have fun but you'll get to know what members in early years, schools, colleges, universities and the careers service are up to.

Local Service Champions

Come and learn about our fantastic Local Service Champions campaign which showcases the amazing work that local government workers carry out in communities across the UK. But more importantly, please come and tell us about the work you do!

We want to collect testimonies from our members to help demonstrate the amazing work done by council workers every day. We will use your stories to support UNISON's campaign to secure more funding for council services across the UK.

Tuesday 14 June 2022

UNISONdirect

In 2021 UNISON direct dealt with 309212 contacts from members – are you wondering what they might be contacting us about? How do you think members are contacting us? Do you really know what we do and all the ways we can help you and your members? Do you know what contact information we have for your branch when we are making a referral?

The answers might surprise you! Find out all the areas that we can help make your branch's work easier.

Come and play snakes and ladders, testing your knowledge of UNISONdirect and you might win a prize. Or see what contact information we have for your branch, check it is correct and discuss how we can bespoke referrals for your branch and it's needs.

Pensions

Come and find out about UNISON's Campaign for better Defined Contribution Pension Schemes for members already in these scheme and why this is such a crucial area for organising in the workplace for UNISON. Also how we can defend Defined Benefit Schemes such as the LGPS and the NHS pension Schemes. Get an update on equality and pensions.

UNISON College

UNISON's wealth of training for activists and learning opportunities for members has long been the thing that sets us apart. From confidence skills to advanced employment law, from English, maths and digital skills to continuing professional development, our programme of classroom and online learning has helped members and activists take the next step.

Now UNISON College is on the way, offering a wider spread of learning and training and an exciting new advice and guidance service. Visit Learning and Organising Services in the Unizone to find out more about what's coming and how you can support members and activists in your branch and attend the Learning and Organising fringe meeting on Wednesday 15 June at 12.45 to hear the General Secretary launch the UNISON college.

Cost of Living Campaign

Come to the unizone and find out all you need to know about our "Cost of Living" campaign. Tell us how the cost of living is impacting on the members in your branch.

Wednesday 15 June

Energy – Play Your Cards Right

Can you play your cards right and make sense of the energy crisis? By taking part you might understand more, the help available to those struggling to pay their bills and how UNISON offers a different way forward to secure energy justice for all. You might also win a prize!

Bargaining support

For practical advice to help you in negotiating with employers, visit the Bargaining Support stall and see the wide range of guides and model agreements available for achieving the best deal for members. Whether you're putting together a pay claim, campaigning for the Living Wage, navigating through the process of transfers or reorganisations, defending reps' facility time or facing challenges to unsocial hours payments, maternity pay or leave arrangements, our guides on these issues and many more seek to draw together concise summaries of regulations, benchmarks across the economy and public services, best practice examples and key negotiating tips.

Tackling pay inequality

Pay is a crunch equality issue with young workers, women, Black, disabled and LGBT+ workers stuck in insecure and badly paid jobs. It's an age old issue but there is lots we can do to tackle it: we can negotiating flexible working and disability leave agreements; we can campaign to end discriminatory minimum wage rates and for improved childcare; we can organise for trans equality and to challenge racism in the workplace. Join UNISON equality team to play a fun game of the ups and downs of tackling pay inequality and leave with lots of ideas and resources you can use in your branch.

Merlin (PM only)

Merlin is the new membership system for all Staff and Branches. Over the last 12 months we have obtained feedback from hundreds of staff and branch officers and these requirements have been incorporated into the design of Merlin. The Merlin project team will be available to demonstrate Merlin and answer your questions.

Green travel in the NHS

With mileage and car-parking hot campaign topics for many health branches, UNISON is also pressing for longer-term changes to NHS travel payments and policies. Our union has committed to implementing green travel in the NHS as part of measures to tackle the climate emergency too. Come and visit the 'Green travel in the NHS' session on the Unizone to share ideas which will help the union to set out how travel policies can work for health workers and also for our planet. This session will also be useful in helping you to understand how embracing green travel could help the NHS get to net zero carbon. We look forward to seeing you!

Branch Services Portal

Further to the passing of Motion 72 supporting our branches, UNISON is excited to be offering a first look of the Branch Services Portal at this year's National Delegate Conference!

The Portal will be an online space where Senior Branch Activists can access key documents, information and tools, to assist them in their role of running a busy branch.

Your input is crucial through this development stage, and we invite you to take a first look at the Portal in the UNIZONE area on the 15th June from 9am. You will have the opportunity to test the Portal, ask questions and make suggestions.

From the 15th June you are invited to share your feedback by responding to this online user experience survey: <https://bit.ly/3M7XF1V>.

Thursday 16 June

Merlin (AM only)

Merlin is the new membership system for all Staff and Branches. Over the last 12 months we have obtained feedback from hundreds of staff and branch officers and these requirements have been incorporated into the design of Merlin. The Merlin project team will be available to demonstrate Merlin and answer your questions.

Health and Safety UNIZONE – Where is work stress hurting you?

Work related stress is a major cause of anxiety and depression, but did you know that stress can affect nearly every part of the body? Come and find out how stress affects the body as well as the mind and use our body map to tell us where work stress is hurting you.

Employers should be treating work stress, just like any other hazard – assessing the risk of harm and tackling the work related causes. Get some tips on how you can organise around the issue of work related stress and what to expect from your employer.

With official data on work related stress, anxiety and depression showing that it is higher now than in previous years, especially in workers providing public services, your input will also help shape UNISON's refreshed work related stress campaign.

Organising

The Strategic Organising Unit will be on the Organising stall in the UNIZONE all day on Thursday.

Come along to meet the team and find out more about having effective organising conversations with workers.

7. Fringe events

Sunday 12 June

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Meeting the organising challenge in schools – including updates on the new education white paper in England and work in the devolved nations

Updates on the new education white paper in England; what the white paper will mean for schools and key schools issues in the devolved nations. How we organise in response.

Speakers: Mike Short, National Secretary Local Government and Education with a range of other speakers tbc.

Where and when: 12.45pm; Syndicate 2

Lunch provided

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Purchasing Power: Putting Workers at the Heart of Public Procurement

How can local government's £50 billion budget help end forced labour and union busting in supply chains? Hear the issues and solutions from Solar Panels, PPE and electronics experts.

Speakers: Rahima Mahmut, UK project director of the World Uyghur Congress and the Chair of Stop Uyghur Genocide; Professor Laura Murphy, Helena Kennedy Centre for International Justice at Sheffield Hallam University; Nusrat Uddin, public law solicitors Wilsons; Peter Pawlicki, Director of Outreach and Education, Electronics Watch

Chair: Lorraine Thomson

Where and when: 5.15pm; Syndicate 2

Refreshments provided

Monday 13 June

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Recruiting and Organising Young Workers

Join us to hear about the issues that young workers are raising in UNISON and some of the things branches can do to recruit younger workers and help get them involved in the union.

Speakers: Josephine Grahl, UNISON National Officer for Young Members, and speakers from UNISON's National Young Members Forum

Where and when: 12.45pm; Syndicate 1

Lunch provided

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International Rally

Speakers: Christina McAnea, UNISON General Secretary; Mavis Mulaudzi, Deputy President, Democratic Nurses Organisation of South Africa; Darnelly Rodriguez, human rights defender, Colombia; Mehmet Bozgeyik, Co-President, Turkish Public Sector Workers Confederation (KESK); Myla Catapia Laja, Filipino Migrant Construction Worker's Association, Qatar

Chair: Liz Wheatley, chair of the International Committee

Where and when: 6.30pm

Refreshments available from 6pm

Tuesday 14 June

Membership Engagement Programme

UNISON is considering how we ensure members are at the centre of delivering campaigns, representation and increased participation from all parts of the union. If you want to hear more about this, and be part of the conversation, please come along.

Speakers: Emilie Oldknow, AGS; Clare Williams, National Secretary, Regions; Beth Bickerstaffe, Member Participation

Where and when: 12.45pm; Syndicate 2

Lunch Provided

Solidarity with Turkey: Defending workers' and human rights

Human and workers' rights in Turkey have been rapidly eroded in recent years, with trade unionists harassed and arrested, strikes banned and thousands of public service workers dismissed. Hear how public service unions are responding to the crisis and how we are building solidarity with Turkish trade unions.

Speakers: Mehmet Bozgeyik, Co-President, Confederation of Public Employees' Trade Unions (KESK); Osman Isci, International Officer, KESK; Cinar Altun, Solidarity with the People of Turkey

Chair: NEC International Committee

Where and when: 12.45pm; Syndicate 4

Lunch Provided

Energy Crisis – Cause, Consequences and ways forward

Cause – what has got us to where we are at.
Consequences – Fuel poverty – eat not heat. Ways Forward – What does UNISON say is the way forward?

Speakers: Tracey Wainwright, Fuel Poverty Action speaker (TBC)

Where and when: 12.45pm; Syndicate 3

Lunch provided

Labour Link: Rally with Rayner

Labour Link will be hosting a rally with Deputy Leader of the Labour Party Angela Rayner. The rally will focus on taking UNISON's priorities into the Labour Party in the run up to the next General Election.

Speakers: Angela Rayner, Deputy Leader of the Labour Party, Linda Hobson, Chair of UNISON Labour Link, Other speakers TBC

Where and when: 5.15pm; Restaurant

Refreshments provided

Misogyny as a hate crime

Aggression, harassment and violence against women is pervasive in the UK and increasing. Most recently, we have seen high profile examples of aggressive, sexist behaviour in Parliament and an abhorrent and discriminatory culture revealed in the Metropolitan Police. However we know misogyny is also rife in workplaces and wider society on scales we haven't seen before. Our panel will discuss the problem and what can be done about it in the workplace and wider society.

Speakers: Kim McGuinness, PCC; Stella Creasey, MP; Josie Irwin, National Women's Officer

Where and when: 5.15pm; Auditorium 2

60 years too long – End the US blockade of Cuba

Speakers: Bárbara Montalvo, Cuban Ambassador; Paula Barker MP (invited); Micaela Tracey-Ramos, Unison Young member/May Day Brigade participant; Rob Miller, director, Cuba Solidarity Campaign

Chair: Kevan Nelson, Regional Secretary North West UNISON

Where and when: 5.15pm; Syndicate 3

With Havana Club Rum cocktails

The war in Ukraine (Syndicate 2)

How can we build an effective and broad coalition against the war in Ukraine and develop our solidarity with the Ukrainian trade union movement and anti-war activists in Russia.

Speakers: Speakers invited from the Stop the War Coalition, the Ukrainian trade unions and a Russian anti-war activist and trade unionist

Chair: Liz Wheatley, UNISON NEC

Where and when: 5.15pm; Syndicate 2

Refreshments provided

World Cup 2022: What legacy for Qatar's migrant workers?

Hear about changes to Qatar's labour laws and their implementation, the role of migrant workers' associations to advance workers' rights and the battle to sustain the gains after 2022.

Chair: Paul Holmes

Speakers: Myla Laja, Women's Program Coordinator BMKQ Philippine workers association, Qatar; Paola Cammilli, Global Director for Campaigns, Building and Woodworkers' International; Footballer, Jordan Henderson, Liverpool Captain (invited); Football Association, TBC.

Where and when: 5.15pm; Syndicate 4

Refreshments provided

TU fight against Racism (Meeting Room 1 A/B)

The fringe will highlight the intersection between the high proportion of BAME workers in the public sector, and the importance of public services, and working together in unions for our rights

Speakers: Sabby Dhalu and Weyman Bennet (SUTR); Gloria Mills (UNISON)

Where and when: 5.15pm; Meeting Room 1 A/B

Wednesday 15 June

Equality fringe - After Covid

Mental health problems have been a widespread impact of the Covid pandemic, but they impact different people differently and for different reasons. From our conversations with members and our SOGS, this is a widespread and deeply felt issue and one which UNISON can target recruitment campaigns around. Recognising that mental health problems have different roots and disproportionately affects marginalised groups will help inform members about UNISON's self-organised structures and the work we do

Speakers: TBC

Where and when: 12.45pm; Syndicate 4

Refreshments provided

Challenging Pregnancy, Maternity & Menopause discrimination in the workplace

Campaigning /Lobbying for improvements for women through legislation and how to build an effective Employment Tribunal pregnancy/maternity/ menopause case.

Speakers: Josie Irwin, Shantha David, Teresa Donegan

Where and when: 12.45pm; Auditorium 2

Lunch provided

UNISON College

The launch of the UNISON College – supporting members and activists.

Speakers: Christina McAnea; Mark Winterbotham, Director IFF; John Jones, NEC (Chair)

Where and when: 12.45pm; Syndicate 2

Refreshments/food will be provided

Getting to net zero in UK public services: The road to decarbonisation

The fringe will build on UNISON's report on decarbonisation of public services, it will discuss the report's findings and aims to build support for campaigns for adequate funding to enable public services to both get to net Zero and to set the standards for the rest of the country to get there too

Chair: Stephen Smellie, Scotland's Vice convenor and NEC member.

Where and when: 12.45pm,; Restaurant

Lunch Provided

Solidarity with Palestine: Campaigning for quality public services, decent work and an end to the occupation

Join our Palestine fringe meeting, and hear about the challenges Palestinians are facing, living and working under Israeli occupation and apartheid. This is also a great opportunity for UNISON members to find out what they can do in the union and in their communities to continue to support the Palestinian people.

Speakers: Ben Jamal, Director, Palestine Solidarity Campaign; Speaker from MAAN Workers' Association; Margaret McKee, UNISON NEC

Chair: TBC

Where and when: 12.45pm; Syndicate 3

Lunch Provided

Mass dismissals – Combatting P&O style fire and replace tactics

Challenge outsourcing, fire and rehire and fire and replace as nasty practices which should be illegal, and have proper enforcement to stop happening.

Where and when: 5.15pm; Meeting Room 1 A/B

Colombia's Elections: What Next for Peace and Human Rights

Description – Following Colombia's recent presidential election, what are the prospects for peace and human rights in what is still the world's deadliest country for trade unionists and social activists? We're joined by Colombian activists and UNISON members who have just visited the country to discuss what we can do to support the Colombian people?

Speakers: TBC

Where and when: 5.15pm; Syndicate 2

Refreshments provided

What happens when investment firms take over UK care homes?

Find out what really happens when investment firms take over our care services. A crucial event for anyone interested in UK social care.

Speakers: Christina McAnea, UNISON General Secretary; Vivek Kotecha, Social Care Finance expert and report co-author; Christine Corlet-Walker, University of Surrey and report co-author.

Where and when: 5.15pm; Syndicate 4

Refreshments provided

Celebrating UNISON's Year of Disabled Workers Rally and Reception

UNISON has declared 2022 the year of disabled workers. Come and celebrate the contribution our disabled members make at our rally. Find out what the key issues are, how UNISON is working to strengthen disabled workers' rights and how you and your branch can get involved.

Speakers: Special guest speakers

Where and when: 5.15pm; Auditorium 2

Refreshments provided

Thursday 16 June

Cost of living Crisis

This fringe will consider the implications of the cost of living crisis for UNISON members and provide an opportunity for delegates to discuss the union's response.

Speakers: John McDonnell MP; Davena Rankin (Chair of UNISON Campaign Fund Committee) and others to be confirmed.

Where and when: 12.45pm; Meeting room 1 C/D

Show Racism the Red card

Keeping the BLM movement top of the political agenda.

Speakers: TBC

Where and when: 12.45pm; Restaurant

UNISON's Campaign for better Defined Contribution Pension Schemes and defending Defined Benefit Schemes

Protect and secure decent employment, pay and pensions, promoting equality and challenging discrimination.

Speakers: Chair from NEC; Glyn Jenkins Head of Pensions; Outside speaker preferably an actuary

Where and when: 12.45pm; Auditorium 2

Organising and recruitment strategy

What future for Organising in UNISON?

Speakers: Andrea Egan NEC Chair of D&O Committee; Lyn Marie O'Hara NEC Scotland; Wendy Guest Branch Secretary Manchester University FT NHS Branch; Sylvia Haughney, Vice Convenor for Education Services, Glasgow City Branch

Where and when: 12.45pm; Syndicate 1

UNISON's health and safety priorities as we emerge from the pandemic

As covid safety restrictions are eased across the UK, this fringe will explore the health and safety challenges covid has presented, the opportunities there have been to organise around health and safety and what the future of workplace health and safety, in a post pandemic world, should look like.

Speakers: Chaired by Joan McNulty, Chair of UNISON's National Health and Safety Committee; Scott Donohoe, UNISON Scotland representative on the National Health and safety Committee; Shelly Asquith, Health and Safety Policy Officer, TUC and Dr. Minjie Cai, Senior Lecturer in Human Resources and Organisational Behaviour, University of Greenwich (tbc).

Where and when: 12.45pm; Syndicate 2

Lunch provided

Ending the need for foodbanks

Many households grappling with real-terms pay cuts and rising prices are unable to make ends meet, and demand for foodbanks is rising. This event will look at the ideas and campaigns needed to tackle hunger and poverty, and end the need for foodbanks.

Alison McGovern MP, Shadow Minister for Employment

Speakers: tbc from the Trussell Trust and There For You

Where and when: 12.45pm; Syndicate 3

Violence against women at work: Using ILO Convention 190 as a lever for change

In November 2021, the UK Government committed to ratifying International Labour Organisation's Convention (ILO) 190 on violence and harassment at work which recognises the right of everyone to a world of work free from violence and harassment, including gender-based violence and harassment. Ratification shouldn't be the end point but the start of action to strengthen legal protections, employer actions and enforcement activity to better protect workers exposed to violence and harassment. This fringe will explore the scope of Convention ILO 190, with a focus on gender related violence at work, look at the current political and legal landscape in the UK and discuss what UNISON can do to campaign for better alignment of the workplace health and safety agenda with women and equalities agenda.

Speakers: Jointly chaired by a member of UNISON's Women's Committee and National Health and Safety Committee; Dr. Jane Pillinger, Global Expert in Gender Equality and Gender Based Violence; Josie Irwin, UNISON's National Women's Officer and Kim Sunley, UNISON's National Health and Safety Officer.

Where and when: 5.15pm; Syndicate 1

Refreshments provided

Organising to win

This fringe will focus on how we engage with members to encourage them to take part in disputes and vote in ballots. There will also be an opportunity to learn from successful disputes.

Speakers: Chair: Andrea Egan (NEC), Paul Holmes (NEC), Lynn Marie O'Hara (NEC), James Skretta, Organiser Starbucks Workers United

Where and when: 5.15pm; Syndicate 3

Levelling Up? Tackling Racial Disparities

As the Government denies that institutional racism even exists, what should unions do to challenge racism in the workplace and beyond?

Speakers: David Lammy MP, Shadow Foreign Secretary, Gloria Mills National Secretary Women and Equalities, Tim Roberts Regional Secretary Eastern Region, Kudsia Batool, Head of Equalities and Strategy (TUC), Alba Kapoor, Senior Policy Manager, Runnymede Trust

Where and when: 5.15pm; Auditorium 2

Food and refreshments provided

Taking your time – a UNISON guide to making the most of your facility time

Facility Time has been under attack under the UK's Tory Govt. This fringe will examine how to maximise TU engagement with members around the organising agenda and outline UNISON's Bargaining Guidance to empower TU activists on the current legislation.

Speakers: Steve North (NEC), Catharyn Lawrence (Chair, National Private Contractors Forum), Activist from Community (TBC)

Where and when: 5.15pm; Syndicate 2

8. Meetings for self-organised groups

The self organised group meetings provide an opportunity to network and discuss issues which appear on the conference agenda and are of interest to the group.

Meetings for Disabled members

All disabled delegates and disabled visitors are welcome to join these meetings.

- Sunday 12 June
12.45pm – 1.15pm, Syndicate 1
Local Government Conference
- Tuesday 14 June
12.45pm – 1.45pm, Meeting Room 1C/D
- Thursday 16 June
5.15pm – 6.15pm, Meeting Room 1C/D

Meetings for LGBT+ members

All lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender plus delegates and visitors are urged to attend.

- Sunday 12 June
5.15pm – 5.45pm, Meeting Room 1A/B
Local Government Conference
- Tuesday 14 June
5.15pm – 6.15pm, Meeting Room 1C/D
- Thursday 16 June
5.15pm – 6.15pm Meeting Room 1A/B

Meetings for Women members

All delegates and visitors who identify as women are welcome to attend these meetings.

- Tuesday 14 June
12.45pm – 1.45pm - Syndicate 1

Meetings for Black members

All delegates and visitors who identify as Black are welcome to attend these meetings.

- Sunday 12 June
1.20pm – 1.50pm, Syndicate 1
Local Government Conference
- Tuesday 14 June
5.15pm – 6.15pm, Syndicate 1
- Wednesday 15 June
12.45pm – 1.45pm, Syndicate 1

In UNISON Black is used with a capital B in its broad, inclusive and political campaigning sense. For more information, please visit our website:

- ➔ unison.org.uk/about/what-we-do/fairness-equality/black-members/defining-black

LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONFERENCE

YORKSHIRE & HUMBERSIDE	SCOTLAND	NORTHERN IRELAND	WEST MIDLANDS
D	E	D	C
C	D	C	B
B	E	B	A
A	F	A	B
NORTH WEST	SOUTH WEST	EAST MIDLANDS	GREATER LONDON
I	H	H	H
J	I	I	G
K	J	J	F
L	K	K	E
M	L	L	D
NO FILMING ZONE	CYMRU / WALES	SOUTH EAST	NORTHERN
M	M	M	M
N	SOG's	N	N
O	O	O	O
	SECTOR REPS	NEC	STAFF / GUESTS

NATIONAL DELEGATE CONFERENCE

NORTHERN												
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
CYMRU / WALES												

EASTERN												
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
EAST MIDLANDS												

NORTHERN IRELAND												
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
WEST MIDLANDS												

SOUTHEAST												
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
											SERVICE GROUP REPS	
											RETIRED MEMBERS / YOUNG MEMBERS	

SCOTLAND												
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
NORTH WEST												
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
SOG's												

YORKSHIRE & HUMBERSIDE												
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
GREATER LONDON												
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
SOUTH WEST												
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