



RMT's Bob Crow vows Tube strike 'of a generation'



Strike: the threat from two of the largest unions came after Tories on the London Assembly urged Transport for London to withdraw 'gold-plated' final salary pensions and other travel perks, in line with other public sector workers.

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Matthew Beard and Pippa Crerar

24 May 2013

Tube union leaders today threatened the "biggest strike in a generation" in protest at calls to cut back pensions and free travel benefits.

The threat from two of the largest unions came after Tories on the London Assembly urged Transport for London to withdraw "gold-plated" final salary pensions and other travel perks, in line with other public sector workers.

Figures obtained by the Conservatives showed that the cost of the scheme, which has 83,000 members, has soared to £1.6 billion in the seven years to 2011.

Free travel is also offered to the one person nominated by each member of TfL staff under a scheme which costs the taxpayers £18 million a year.

But RMT leader Bob Crow warned that he could stage a strike within three weeks to protect his 10,000 members, including drivers, station staff and engineers working for TfL or London Underground.

"If members of the London Assembly think that they can play politics with our members' working conditions and benefits on London Underground then they should think again," he said.

"I can tell them categorically that any attack on pensions, passes or other hard-won conditions of service would be met with the biggest wave of industrial action on London Underground in 30 years. RMT will not tolerate any sniping away at our members' workplace rights and agreements."

Mick Whelan, general secretary of train drivers' union Aslef, said: "If there is any attack on our final salary pensions which our members have earned and paid for it will inevitably result in industrial action.

"It is a ludicrous suggestion and shows a lack of respect for the dignity of old people and we won't allow these benefits to be taken away."

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Assembly budget committee member Gareth Bacon said that the local government pension scheme was being reformed next year and that TfL should follow suit.

TfL commissioner Sir Peter Hendy said he was examining the cost of the scheme but that there were "no current plans" to change it.

Meanwhile, Boris Johnson has admitted defeat in his battle to persuade the Government to bring in tough anti-strike laws.

The Mayor said his repeated efforts to get ministers to adopt a 50 per cent turn-out threshold of all balloted union members had come to nothing.

At Mayor's question time, Mr Johnson said: "We've made this case repeatedly to government at all levels. We had high hopes that the Coalition would take it up. Occasionally we've heard some favourable mutterings but nothing has ever really been produced and it's very frustrating, I won't hide it from you.

"It has not been possible to persuade the Government to go for even the moderate proposal, the 50 per cent turn-out threshold, that we wanted."

London Assembly member Dick Tracey, a former Tory minister, said: "London should not be held hostage by what constitutes a minority of workers in the London Underground. The average strike costs £48 million a day."

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Anonymous 2 days ago

Ooooh a strike, love them!!! Fight for your right to work - but I doubt it'll happen as I cannot recall a strike happening since 2011?

Perhaps they could also protest against Livingstones beacon of islam, oh wait they did by not voting that scumbag back in. Good riddance to that pathetic joke of a man. Hope he rots in a little corner thinking had I not made such sad statements, I might have got back in

Reply

-1

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e.g. 'Borough', 'SW10'


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 **Ham** 4 days ago
automate the underground like the DLR
 [2 replies](#) -2

 **Anonymous** 4 days ago
10-15 years away minimum.
even then it wont be the same.. the underground is deep tube.
DLR is not
 +2

 **Anonymous** 3 days ago
Totally agree!
 -2

 **camsw4** 6 days ago
Final salary pension at 60! 10 weeks annual leave. Roughly £50,000 starting salary for tube drivers. Some £30,000 (nearly) for station attendants. Dry cleaning allowance. Free travel for themselves and a nominee. I don't pity the average tube worker on the frontline one bit. The rest of the world is waking up to the smell of reality - that we aren't all retiring at 60 like we thought. Public sector workers are now retiring like the rest of society ... retiring at the state pension age. These workers make more than nurses, police officers, and teachers. Why are they treated so much better than the rest and its the travelling public that pay the bill. Do you see fares on the tube getting cheaper anytime soon?
 [7 replies](#) 0

 **colinhenry** 6 days ago
No, and if they cut the pay of tube workers by 50% do you honestly think that it would be given to nurses, coppers and teachers. The pay is the result of a plan by a TORY government in 1992 to prepare the tube to be flogged. All the payments for late shifts, weekends, bank holidays etc was rolled up into a salary which with just cost of living increases is over forty grand, and its 43 days holiday because of working 38 hours and being paid for 36. They are not TREATED any better than other workers, they stick together and fight for their T and Cs. Whereas others, especially in the private sector have given theirs up with a whimper. When are the cowed, bootlickers in that foggy little dump going to get the message? You get nowhere by cravenly accepting the crumbs from the bosses table. Just the winners medal in the race to the bottom.
 [2 replies](#) 0

 **camsw4** 5 days ago
Colin you go a long way away from the point. The rest of society and the world is retiring later ... that is a fact. Another fact is that London has one of the most expensive metro systems in the world and doesn't appear to get any cheaper as the years go by whilst the rest of the public services have had cuts to trim services, salaries, and other outgoings. Tube workers just had a 5% pay rise for the Olympics and a bonus for the event. And yes, overall, the terms and conditions at TfL are stuck in the 70s. I'm not saying tube workers shouldn't be paid a decent wage but they already are and unfortunately they, like the rest of us, have to wake up and smell the coffee.
0

ASLEFshrugged 5 days ago
The current four year pay deal, RPI + 0.5%, was agreed in October 2011 and had nothing to do with the Olympics. We did get a bonus for temporarily changing our "contract" but nobody actually earned anywhere near the maximum possible amounts the media were making so much fuss about. Our pay and conditions are comparable to other railway workers but we're not the best paid train drivers in the UK, pretty much there in the middle.

We get 43 days leave; 28 days statutory, 8 days bank holidays which we work for no extra pay, 6 days for working 36 hours a week but only getting paid of 35 and one day I really have absolutely no idea why. If I took early retirement it would be at a reduced rate just like everyone else, I'll be there until 66, 67, whatever it is when I get there.

Fares on the Paris Metro and elsewhere are cheaper because they are heavily subsidised, we could have had cheaper fares if those of us who bothered to vote at the last Mayoral election had backed Ken but instead they chose Boris who made no secret of his intention to push fares up.

0

Anonymous 5 days ago



News pictures of the day



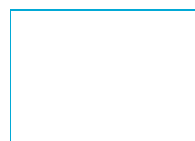
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[3 replies](#)

+1



camsw4 5 days ago

How closed minded you are my friend. I live in a council block and I work for a public service. Im not going to say the nature of what I do but I work lots of shifts and in our industry we have had cuts to pay, terms, and conditions, SW4, for your information, consists of many walks of life. You most likely think everyone in SW4 is a young, urban professional with money to burn? Like many parts of the capital there are many walks of life.

+1



colinhenry 5 days ago

camsw4,your response simply confirms my point.Instead of standing up to the attacks on your T and Cs your reaction is that everyone else,especially the tube workers should have theirs slashed too.The fares are expensive because Boris and co have decided the passenger pays most.Have a look too at the increasing number of management levels at LUL.All on eighty grand plus.It is you who needs to "wake up and smell the coffee".The divide and rule tactic has obviously worked on you.In the race to the bottom,you are wearing the yellow jersey

-1



Anonymous 5 days ago

Camsw4

BORIS FARES are also dear to fund his vanity projects like TFL PAYING FOR BORISMASTERS! When buses are normally paid for by private bus companies !

We also have empty cable cars and throwing away 400 high capacity Artic buses which are the norm in big cities around the world. Funny thing is one bus company still has/had Artics at a London garage at the start of this year !

Time you learned to stand up for yourself and get a union behind you instead of public school boys with their boots !

+1



Anonymous 6 days ago

I suppose given planes regularly use automatic pilots I suppose they could also be fully automated !

Reply

[2 replies](#)

0

ASLEFshrugged 5 days ago

According to Tube boss Mike Brown it will take £12bn and over ten years to get 30% of the trains fully automated, the system has been under development on a test track in Leicestershire for over a year but they don't have the money to start the work.

Reply

[1 reply](#)

+1

Anonymous 5 days ago

£12 billion would be better spent upgrading sections of tube like Central and Northern lines where stations were built to narrow for escalators and lifts to platform level in fact like Angel used to be several stations around Clapham still have dangerous narrow island platforms and might provide further work for Crossrail TBMs !

+1

Anonymous 6 days ago

How can a pension be taken away when you have paid into it with your own money for a number of years? As I understand the law has changed and you can close a pension fund down but you have to make equal requirements for exiting members in a different pension company.

Reply

[4 replies](#)

+3

Anonymous 6 days ago

That's what Cameron has done to women and men who expected retirement pension at 60 and 65 !

Labour should promise to reset pensions and pay for it by tax on millionaires and their bonuses !

Reply

[2 replies](#)

+2

camsw4 6 days ago

This is a world phenomena. ALI countries are raising

the retirement age of the workforce. Who do you think pays for the pensions? A great part of the cost comes from the tax payer. When does the tax payer retire. Well its rising to 68. Sadly thats life/

-1



Anonymous 5 days ago
Camsw4

That's because same right wing governments have gained power !

I remember when we were told we would retire at 50 but that's before greedy bankers made a mess of world in 2008!

The irony is while old are told to work longer new generations can't get jobs and its this that will bring pack of cards down as with no new buyers property prices will crash !

+3



mikeploka 5 days ago

They're not proposing to take away pensions that have already been earned, just pensions based on future years of employment.

0



Anonymous 6 days ago

Still no sign of Boris meeting TFL unions ..!

Makes you wonder what Londoners and TFL passengers pay him for ?

[2 replies](#)

+4



ASLEFshrugged 5 days ago

Boris was advised by Peter Henty not to meet the Unions directly which is why he didn't repeat his 2008 manifesto promise to negotiate a no-strike deal in 2012. Actually there hasn't been a need, RMT haven't been on strike since January 2011 and ASLEF only go on strike on Boxing Day.

[1 reply](#)

+1



Anonymous 5 days ago

Any reading this paper would think strikes on tube are as regular as Big Ben !

+1



James James 6 days ago

Like many civil servants, these gold plated pensions are based on pretty low salaries. So they are gold plated at 9k per year. Sort of guaranteed poverty. Senior civil servants, politicians etc. are all well looked after. The RMT members get no more than the crumbs from the table. UK workers should wake up to the fact that they are sliding into third world poverty despite the best efforts of the unions.

[2 replies](#)

+2



Anonymous 6 days ago

Couldnt be more correct. My father worked for the railways for 35 years he is nearly 90 now and his railway pension is £360 per every 4 weeks, hardly gold plated.

[1 reply](#)

+3



Anonymous 6 days ago

£360 was a fortune when he started !

0



Kooldos 6 days ago

Why don't Bob Crow give up his council flat since he's earning more than £100K. Hypocrisy!!!

[2 replies](#)

-1



Anonymous 6 days ago

So when he is finished with it someone on waiting list can have it !

Fact is most council tenants bought flats and then sold them to estate agents that now charge government vast amounts in rent for those on benefits...!

It's the price you pay for Thatcherite dogma !

+1













Anonymous 3 days ago



because he's a selfish idiot that has nothing in common with the working man




0

Anonymous 6 days ago

-  The pension scheme is run independently from TFL with elected members, I expect as with all pension schemes as wages rise the contribution from staff will have to rise above the normal rates, that's a fair way to get a good pension, put more in yourself and get more when you retire.
[Reply](#) [1 reply](#) +7
-  **Anonymous** 6 days ago
well said!! they run it well. TFL will never get their hands on it
[Reply](#) +4
-  **Anonymous** 6 days ago
I wish I had a tough union to stick up for the appalling conditions I have to put up with at work, and £46000 a year, never mind nice to dream.
[Reply](#) [2 replies](#) +4
-  **Anonymous** 6 days ago
So do you belong to a union and if not why not ...?
[Reply](#) +4
-  **mikeploкта** 5 days ago
If you want a good salary, the rules are pretty simple. You need to do exceptionally well a difficult job that makes a large and easily measurable difference to your employer's profitability. As long as you satisfy those conditions, you will be well paid.
[Reply](#) 0
-  **Anonymous** 6 days ago
Time to Thatcher this useless overpaid waste of space once and for all..
[Reply](#) [2 replies](#) -5
-  **Bruno** 6 days ago
She's brown bread accept it.
[Reply](#) [1 reply](#) +4
-  **Anonymous** 3 days ago
Thankfully she understood economics and the need to be competitive and not have wasteful public services. She may be toast but her common sense ideology has stayed with us.. only a few idiots like Crow left.
0
-  **Jager** 6 days ago
"Tories on the London Assembly urged Transport for London to withdraw "gold-plated" final salary pensions and other travel perks." Will these Tories be giving up their perks and final salary pensions ? No. Thought not. Rich boy parasites
[Reply](#) [3 replies](#) +6
-  **oibeere** 6 days ago
Sadly when the pensions of a company are no longer viable they close or are modified or closed. He can bawl and shout as much as he likes but in the end he and his members will have to face reality.

They can of course thank Comrade and brothers Brown and Balls for messing up the taxation on pension funds and turning well financed funds into a mess.

Three cheers for Labour the working man's friend
[Reply](#) [1 reply](#) -1
-  **Anonymous** 6 days ago
point is they are viable. the pension scheme is in profit year in year out
+4
-  **Anonymous** 6 days ago
Tories should lead by example and ban pensions for their MPs and Councillors !

Thought not...
[Reply](#) +2
-  **Anonymous** 6 days ago
BORIS!!! Sack these muppets and get the Tube automated asap!!
[Reply](#) [9 replies](#) +2
-  **colinhenry** 6 days ago
And on each train there will have to be a presence.who will all be RMT members.
But it aint going to happen for years.My timid friend.
[Reply](#) [1 reply](#) 0
-  **JohnnoW** 6 days ago
Yep, but it will mean a lot less pay for them as drivers

are on a cushy pay package, and ultimately less staff with their overtly generous benefits packages . Sort of like having a janitor on the trains.

+1



Anonymous 6 days ago

Auto Trains are inevitable in the future, but it will take many years to adapt the system for them. It would be safer to have a new grade of say train attendant at a lower wage than a driver of today's trains but this will not happen until the drivers of today start to retire.

[4 replies](#)

+1



Bruno 6 days ago

Do you think your fares would be lower without drivers,I think not.

+1



Anonymous 6 days ago

auto trains are 30-40 years away

+1



Anonymous 6 days ago

I don't think fares will ever go down, its like all bills they are always going up. I never use the underground as I don't live in London but I know its turning its self around with more investment in the last few years to cope with the growing population and with more travelling surely safety should be number 1 concern. I would feel safer travelling with a member of staff on the train whatever grade they are because lets face it is technology ever 100%? I would rather have a physical presence to help us if there's a fire/defect rather than the line controller telling passengers what to do via the train intercoms.

+1



Anonymous 6 days ago

Victoria Line has had Automatic trains since it first opened in 1968 !

But it has always been thought having a person on board is safer for passengers !

Even DLR which drive themselves still have a Train Captain on board who regularly drive the trains manually !

London tube is to big and old for driverless trains but "don't do detail" Boris can't understand this !

+1



Anonymous 6 days ago

Be better VFM to sack Boris and get a Mayor that is not to frit to meet unions !

[1 reply](#)

+2



Anonymous 2 days ago

What, get George Osborne as mayor???

He'd do a better job than the terrorist supporter we saw sense not to vote in!

0



danoler 6 days ago

Bob's members have to put up with working in appalling conditions for low wages. I think the general public should be happy to pay for their huge pensions and travel for their partners. It's only £18 million a year

[8 replies](#)

0



Anonymous 6 days ago

London ratepayers could use that £18 million to pay for free travel within 70 miles of London for the Metropolitan Police,after all you can't expect our Polce to actually live in our City.

[2 replies](#)

0



Anonymous 6 days ago

Police get free travel already on underground.

0



peter 6 days ago

Police don't get free travel on main line trains,but they can buy a special discount card

0



SeaBee 6 days ago

£50K for sitting in a cab watching the world go by doesn't sound

like low wages. Cab fitted with tea-maker and leather bed doesn't sound like appalling conditions. Alright I made the last one up, but their working conditions could hardly be called appalling.

[Reply](#) [3 replies](#) -1



Bruno 6 days ago

How many people who work in lovely clean offices earn that kind of money, I know people who sell insurance who earn more than that. A very noble profession I must say.

+2



Anonymous 6 days ago

yes because the cabs have tea makers? lol. idiot

0



Anonymous 6 days ago

See bee

Should bring back steam trains as they came with great toasters !

+2



Anonymous 6 days ago

And how much is wasted in other public services? BBC today £100 million.

[Reply](#) -1



Anonymous 6 days ago

Crow maybe wrong but let the politicians show by example by giving their gold plated pensions and expenses up what the overloaded taxpayers have to suffer

[Reply](#) [2 replies](#) +5



Anonymous 6 days ago

Crow's not wrong. he stands up for those who would otherwise be trodden on. The Tories (and Bonking Boris) would love to get rid of the unions and then they'd have a field day with the working men and women of the UK

[Reply](#) +1



Anonymous 6 days ago

They are talking of giving themselves a massive pay rise !

[Reply](#) +2



bjeast london 6 days ago

Go on strike please. The postmen never recovered from their strike in the early 1970s, the fraudulent printers on the nationals never recovered from their dishonest Fleet Street practices, the dockers disappeared from London and underground drivers will follow them.

[Reply](#) [7 replies](#) -1



colinhenry 6 days ago

Yes, the dockers from your manor the East End. Who fought for better working rights for all workers. They would have no truck with a white flag waving guvnors man like yourself.

[Reply](#) [2 replies](#) +5



bjeast london 6 days ago

Not much of a historian are you?

-2



colinhenry 6 days ago

Not much of an East Ender are you. They knew how to stick up for themselves.

+2



SeaBee 6 days ago

You've omitted the great success the miners had when they last went on strike.

[Reply](#) [1 reply](#) 0



Anonymous 6 days ago

Yeah well that's the price of Nottingham blacklegs who crossed picket lines and once Thatcher had won were sacked!


+2





Bruno 6 days ago


The printers were sacked.


[Reply](#) [1 reply](#) +2


 **Anonymous** 5 days ago
Again you had blacklegs working for Today newspaper !
Funny thing is sign for this paper is still at Laindon Station but paper has long gone..!
+1


 **Anonymous** 6 days ago
Hey Bob, never mind the sacrifices of other people in the current economic climate, as long as you have the exclusive on blackmailing London, just exploit it! Last time I checked, money doesn't grow on trees, Bozo.
 [4 replies](#) -1

 **Anonymous** 6 days ago
Is that your name, Bozo?
 0


 **Anonymous** 6 days ago
Money for tax cuts for millionaires so plenty money...!
 +1


 **ASLEFshrugged** 5 days ago
Year after year more people use the Tube, business is booming.
 +2


 **Anonymous** 5 days ago
Surely paper money grows on trees ! Unless its rice paper !
 +1


 **Anonymous** 6 days ago
This should not be a problem because, according to bonking Boris, we are going to have a no strike deal with the unions.
What? -You mean bonking Boris didn't deliver - perhaps if he spent less time on the job and more time doing his job we might be in a better place.
 [5 replies](#) +4


 **peter** 6 days ago
It takes two, Crow will never allow a no strike deal
 [4 replies](#) -1


 **Anonymous** 6 days ago
So why did Boris promise to negotiate one?
+3


 **Anonymous** 6 days ago
Quite right too!
+1


 **Anonymous** 6 days ago
Boris is to no strike deals what Dave is to EU Referendums !
+2


 **Anonymous** 2 days ago
Boris is no to strike deals as what Livingstone is to beacon of Islam terrorist supporters
Steve, London
0

 **Anonymous** 6 days ago
Well done Bob - somebody standing up for themselves and their members.
 [5 replies](#) +3


 **JohnnoW** 6 days ago
I think its about time, the general public also stood up for themselves and told the train drivers to go stuff themselves and stop making commuters lives a misery with their constant whingeing strikes.
 [4 replies](#) -1

 **Anonymous** 6 days ago
What strikes ?
0

 **Anonymous** 6 days ago
Sack em all then you tw4t and walk for 18 months whilst your wish is put right.
-2

 **ASLEFshrugged** 5 days ago
The RMT hasn't been on strike since January 2011 and ASLEF only go on strike on Boxing Day. Constant? Really?

+1

 **camsw4** 16 hours ago
Wow ASLEF ... since 2011 ... long time for people not to go on strike eh? lol


0

jackscht 6 days ago

Yet BOZZO the mayor elected with just 22% of the vote gets free travel, free rent, gives jobs to his cronies and spends his time shagging secretaries.


[2 replies](#)

+3


 **Anonymous** 6 days ago
Nice work if you can get it.

[1 reply](#)

+2


 **Anonymous** 6 days ago
Then stand for Mayor of London !

+1

 **Anonymous** 2 days ago
More than your terrorist supporting war craving soldier killing loony known as Ken Livingstone got


Still crying that we didn't vote to become a beacon of islam then?

0

 **pbench** 6 days ago
Time for driverless trains, please. It's not Mr Crow's TfL, it's ours.

[2 replies](#)


-3

 **Anonymous** 6 days ago
So wot about signal staff?

Take it you don't mind getting stuck 100 ft (30 m) below London with no one in charge!

[1 reply](#)

+1


 **Anonymous** 6 days ago
It's because of the idiots travelling that someone is needed on them

-1

 **Anonymous** 6 days ago
Pity Bob Crow isn't the PM - he'd look after the interests of the people of this country far better than the current shower.

[10 replies](#)

+3


 **steveb** 6 days ago
In the 70's we had a dozen Bob Crowe types and what they did was destroy our manufacturing industry with constant strikes and nearly bankrupt our country

Someone has to pay for all these gold plated pensions and perks you know.


Its hard to take someone who talks about fairness seriously when they earn a 6 figure salary but are happy to live in housing subsidised by those on a fifth of that.....

[5 replies](#)


0

 **Bruno** 6 days ago
He lives in a local authority house and pays a fair rent which is not subsidised by the tax payer, as is people who pay extortionate rent to private landlords

+3

 **SeaBee** 6 days ago
Bruno, he lives in a subsidised council house yet he could well afford to live in the private sector given his outrageous salary.

-2

 **steveb** 6 days ago
Council and other social landlords don't have to get an economic return for their property so one group of people get a benefit (subsidy in effect) that is not enjoyed by everyone else. if you think the rent covers the upkeep/redecorating/new kitchens etc then good luck to you

Council Houses are not intended for people earning 100k

-1



colinhenry 6 days ago

steveb,that is exactly what happens.Only those on housing benefit in social housing are subsidised.Social housing is intended for people to live in.It never was,or is means tested.but feel free to revel in your ignorance.

+2



Anonymous 5 days ago

Fact is many years ago you needed to earn a decent wage to be accepted as a council tenant as in those days there was no housing benefit ! I am talking post war !

+1



steveb 6 days ago

Bruno,

if you aren't paying the market rent then it is subsidised.....

And you think it is ok in a time of a housing crisis for someone earning well over 100k to live in a council house when more deserving people have to wait?

[2 replies](#)

0



colinhenry 6 days ago

What a load of guff.The rent is set at a level to pay for the upkeep of the house.

if there is a subsidy,who pays it and who receives it?.

+2



Bruno 6 days ago

Council houses were for everyone who wanted them,but I'm afraid you adorable Mrs T decided to sell them all,Bob Crow never bought his ,he decided to keep paying the rent and keep it in the hands of the local authority.He earns what he earns because he does a good job for his members and will never earn a profit from his council home unlike some people.

+2



Anonymous 6 days ago

Pensioners would get a massive increase for a start !

Perhaps Age Concern should recruit him to do the role Jack Jones did representing pensioners ?

+1



Anonymous 6 days ago

As someone having grown up in a country with historically strong unions (Germany) I am always suprised to see that in this country a strike appears to be very first option in the arsenal, rather than the very last, which is what it should be. In Germany, unions and employers negotiate together and almost always manage to reach a compromise on things like pay rises, working concessions and modernisation. Why is it not possible here?

[10 replies](#)

+6



Anonymous 6 days ago

In this case, it's because Bonking Boris refuses to sit down and talk with the unions. As with all his ilk, he prefers to avoid any confrontational situation.

[3 replies](#)

+2



Anonymous 6 days ago

But the RMT acted exactly the same way under Boris's predecessor so that can't be the reason.

0



peter 6 days ago

You have it the wrong way round,Crow will never agreed to a no strike deal it would take away his power

-1



Anonymous 6 days ago

Mayor Ken met unions and did the job he was paid to do by London council and fare payers !

Boris cries to Dave to change laws as his hasn't the ability to negotiate !

Seems politics is the only job where someone not fit for the job can get it !

+1

jackscht 6 days ago

Because Germany is a democracy with workers Unions on the boards of every company by law. In Britain the far right Conservatives don't care about all of us taxpaying workers and subsidise tax avoiding corporations low wages.

[Reply](#) [1 reply](#) +4



Anonymous 6 days ago

Shame Blair was a Tory else with 3 terms he could have introduced same system here in UK !

+1



Bruno 6 days ago

I don't suppose German media goes out of its way to demonise trade unions either

[Reply](#) [3 replies](#) +2



Anonymous 6 days ago

This is very true. Unions are considered a normal part of a democratic country there, and they represent 50% of the seats on most large company executive boards. It is interesting that with this much "socialism" the German economy is running rings around the British Manchesterian hard laissez faire system of capitalism. You cannot deny that taking workers' rights and concerns seriously and including them in the decision making of a company leads to happier and more productive workers.

+3



Anonymous 6 days ago

Evening Boris...

+1



Anonymous 6 days ago

That's why Germany is on top of the world while we are going down Supersewer !

+1



Anonymous 6 days ago

TFL will never go after the pensions.. they know then that power control , all management. Strike breakers, plus all other vitals that dont normally strike will do so. Pensions are too vital to them

[Reply](#) [4 replies](#) +4



Anonymous 6 days ago

plus if people read carefully even the TFL commissioner has said he isnt currently looking to change it.. The pension is very well managed.. Because its separate from TFL . It has its own finical team who make wise investments keeping the fund going year after year.

[Reply](#) [1 reply](#) +5



Anonymous 6 days ago

Wasting £200 million on Vanitybuses just cause they have a hole to let passengers fall from dont so very wise !

+1



Anonymous 6 days ago

I've never lost a day through any underground strike, but that will change if they touch my pension,

[Reply](#) [1 reply](#) +2



Anonymous 5 days ago

Anonymous above (not mine) proves my point. This person has not been on strike once (his/her choice) however if they go after pensions this person (along with 99.9% of others) will go aswell. Im talking senior high up management aswell. Heck i bet mike brown will be on the picket line with bob for this!

0



Anonymous 6 days ago

Yawn....
Pinstripe

[Reply](#) 0



colinhenry 6 days ago

Waaah Mummy,those people over there get good pay,terms and conditions,and a pension.I do not because I am too weak and cowed to stand up and fight for the same.Take it away from them Mummy.

[Reply](#) [11 replies](#) +4



Anonymous 6 days ago

W4nker

[Reply](#)

[5 replies](#)

-4



Anonymous 6 days ago

There's a considered and well thought out argument.

+2



Bruno 6 days ago

Thats not a very nice thing to call the PM

+2



colinhenry 6 days ago

If you were brave enough to put a name up,i might take you seriously.

0



Anonymous 6 days ago

Look at your own hands fool.

0



Anonymous 6 days ago

We know you are that's why you have old Etonian boot treads on your back!

+1

jackscht 6 days ago

True. Divide and rule is the way of the far right Conservative Government.

[Reply](#)

[3 replies](#)

+3



bj east london 6 days ago

And the far left socialists.

-2



peter 6 days ago

And Communists,check out the unite union,run by communist waiting to get their puppet,Red ED in power then watch out

-1



Anonymous 6 days ago

Not the same when it comes to their Banker old school mates !

+1



colinhenry 6 days ago

And again peter,one of the unions like yours.but you were more than happy to take all the benefits of terms and conditions and the pension you enjoy now that the CWU negotiated for you.I am glad I was never alongside you in the trenches.

[Reply](#)

+1



cyprusclive 6 days ago

Think again Mr Crow, think again. You may not have the members support for this strike. Word is that many have already signed personal contracts on very good terms. Also, Mr Crow will you pay the economical rent for your Council flat given the very generous salary you draw. Remember Unite leader on got in with 16% of the membership voting - you old son will get even less and have to retire to a villa in Portugal.

[Reply](#)

[2 replies](#)

-1

jackscht 6 days ago

He doesn't have a council flat and Britain needs rent controls.

STOP the far right Tory slum landlords.

[Reply](#)

[1 reply](#)

+3



terryosser 3 days ago

grow up--rent controls do not work--read some history

0




Anonymous 6 days ago


Sod the lot of them,I don't care how much it costs Londons economy to break the unions once and for all.Issue all the staff with redundancy notices and force them to sign new contracts with everything that the bosses want included. Do not let these layabouts back until they sign the new contracts even if it takes months to get them to crack.


[Reply](#)


[5 replies](#)


+2

 **nickthompson** 6 days ago
Down with ordinary working people, up with MPs and Bankers.
[Reply](#) 0

 **Anonymous** 6 days ago
Nothing wrong with unions. What is wrong is that strikes are always used as the first weapon, rather than trying to negotiate.
[Reply](#) [1 reply](#) -1

 **Anonymous** 6 days ago
Can't negotiate with Mayor who is too frit to meet TFL union reps !
+1

 **Jager** 6 days ago
Sack all of them, then re-hire them under being self employed. Hit this union where iot hurts.
[Reply](#) [1 reply](#) -1

 **patriotes** 5 days ago
And if they dont want to work who will do the work it takes a very long time to train staff. will you put up with the years of disruption?
+1

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Rear of the Year



Party people



Homeland returns



Next big fin?



Finger licking



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