

Mechanical & Electrical Workers



NEWSLETTER • Issue 2 January 2012

BESNA: fight back gears up

Sign or no sign - the fight goes on

BBES and other members of the Seven are bragging about how many people have signed up to BESNA. They reckon that because people have signed they happily accept BESNA. Who are they kidding? We know that most workers signed up because they would be sacked if they didn't.

No matter how many workers have signed BESNA contracts, our dispute continues. BESNA is being imposed, all apart from Spie have withdrawn from the JIBs and workers are still going to end up with massive pay cuts in semi-skilled jobs.

Unite ballot begins

Unite started the re-ballot of BBES on Thursday 19th January and the union is expecting another 'yes' vote. Members voted by 80 per cent during the last ballot. Unite is confident that members at BBES will again vote 'yes' for strike action.

If you work for BBES and you do not receive your ballot paper by Thursday 26th January please contact Nick Drysdale on 0203 371 2083 or email nick.drysdale@unitetheunion.org. The ballot closes on Thursday 2nd February. If the ballot is 'yes' Unite BBES shop stewards will then decide where strike action will happen.

Divide and rule

Unite has learnt that BBES has moved workers who were on JIB/SJIB contracts on NAECI sites onto a bespoke NAECI contract with no mention of BESNA.

This is a tactic by BBES to divide and rule and a blatant attempt to make any strikes

ineffectual. Don't be coned. The next site you could be on could well be BESNA. BESNA is still a vicious attack on your pay and terms and conditions and will de-skill the industry and it needs to be defeated.

Don't sign the new NAECI contract unless you have first obtained advice from your full-time regional officer.

Protests continue

The protests around the country are continuing to have a major impact. Unite has been told by some numerous major clients that they want the Seven to "sort it out". Clients are fed up with the disruption being caused. Your action is working. We now have regular mass meetings happening in many places around the country. Call your regional office to find out what is going on in your area.

Unite's goes on legal offensive

Unite has received legal advice that strongly indicates that the Seven companies behind the imposition of the BESNA have broken EU anti-competition laws. Because BESNA has no union agreement, the Seven are therefore behaving as an illegal cartel. Unite is in the process of making an official complaint against the Seven with the Office of Fair Trading.

Get organised

Protests around the UK are continuing on a weekly basis. We need to keep improving our workplace organisation.

Are all your work mates members? Invite them to join Unite using the form overleaf. Since this tremendous fight-back the union has had a four-fold increase in its number of shop stewards.

Unite construction regional officer contact details

National Officers

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MEMBERSHIP FORM GB

Surname Mr Mrs
 Ms Miss
 Forename Dr Rev
 Male Female

NI No. _____ Date of Birth _____

House No./Name _____

Street _____

City/Town _____

Postcode _____

Home Tel. _____ Mobile _____

Email _____

Please tick if you wish to receive the union's magazine

About Your Job

Employer/Company Name _____

Job Title _____

Work Address _____

Postcode _____ Work Tel. _____

Which membership do you require?
 Core full time (21 or more hours per week)
 Core part time (10 or more but less than 21 hours per week)
 Core and Ancillary full time (21 or more hours per week)
 Core and Ancillary part time (10 or more but less than 21 hours per week)
 On certified apprenticeship scheme
 Year 1 Year 2 Year 3 Year 4
 Other (eg Unemployed member of the community, working less than 10 hours per week, under 18, full time student, retired, permanently disabled)
 Driver Care (a separate Driver Care application form will be sent to you for completion)

Equal Opportunities

Unite the union is committed to the promotion of equal opportunities for all and it is the union's aim to provide services and support to members that is free of discrimination on the basis of race, gender, religion, sexual orientation or disability. What ethnic group do you belong to?

Please tick
 Mixed White & Black Caribbean Asian or Asian British Pakistani Black or Black British African
 White British Mixed White & Black African Asian or Asian British Bangladeshi Black or Black British Other
 White Irish Mixed Other Chinese
 White Other Asian or Asian British Indian Black or Black British Caribbean Mixed White & Asian
 Other/please specify _____

Please tick if you regard yourself as disabled Lesbian Gay Bisexual Trans

For Office use only

Branch No. _____ Job Code _____ Workplace Code _____

Direct Debit Details – Instructions to your Bank or Building Society to pay by Direct Debit



Originators ID Number **9 7 1 4 6 7**

Name of bank/building society _____

Town of the Bank _____

Sort Code _____

Account Number _____

Name(s) of Account Holder(s) _____

On the selected day of the month: 7th 14th 21st 28th

Instruction to your Bank or Building Society

Please pay Unite the union Direct Debit monthly from the account detailed in this instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this instruction may remain with Unite the union and, if so, details will be passed electronically to my Bank Building Society.

Authorisation of deduction of your trade union contribution from your pay (check-off)

Note: Not all employers operate check-off. I hereby authorise the deduction of Unite the union subscriptions from my pay of such amounts as shall be notified to my employer on my behalf from time to time by Unite the union. I also authorise my employer to inform Unite the union of any changes of address.

Paid weekly or monthly? Weekly Monthly Payroll No. _____

Please read the Data Protection Notice.

You have the right at any time to stop us using your details for third party marketing purposes. If you do not wish us to communicate with you or share your contact data for these purposes, please tick this box. Please note that this will preclude you from receiving our special offers or promotions.

I agree to abide by the union's rules. I authorise the payment above.

Are you or have you been a member of a trade union? (including Unite the union) Yes No
 If yes, please give the name of the union and date of last payment _____

When you join Unite, you are also authorising the Union to deduct an additional amount for your subscription to your local branch fund.

Signature _____ Date _____

Employer Code _____ Recruitment Code _____ Membership No. _____

DATA PROTECTION NOTICE: By joining Unite, the union you are providing information which may be used for administrative purposes, the holding of elections and other statutory requirements. If you do not tick the box at mark 'Data Protection Notice', you consent to Unite the union passing on your information for the promotion of membership services (e.g. insurance). We may disclose your information to our service providers and agents for these purposes. However, if we do disclose your information, we will put a contract in place to ensure it is protected. We or they may contact you by post, telephone, email, text or such other means as we may agree with you from time to time, to let you know about any goods, services or promotions that may be of interest to you. We may keep your information for a reasonable period to contact you about our services. You have the right to ask for a copy of your information (for which we charge a small fee) and to correct any inaccuracies. To make sure we follow your instructions correctly and to improve our service to you through training our staff, we may monitor or record communications.