

UNITED ON YOUR BEHALF

Unite the Union is uniquely placed to help members through the inevitable anxiety and change that the takeover of HBOS by LTSB will generate in the coming months and years. Unite is the only union recognised for collective bargaining in both HBOS and LTSB. In LTSB, Unite is the only union recognised right across the LTSB Group. We also participate, in conjunction with our sister unions, in the LTSB European Employee Forum. In HBOS we work across HBOS in partnership with ACCORD – the union originally for former Halifax staff which unlike LTU is also a TUC affiliate.

ADVERSITY

At times of adversity for employees such as this takeover, only by uniting together can the voice of staff be properly heard and their needs protected. For this reason we have written to ACCORD and LTU inviting them to work with us at this critical time. ACCORD have responded positively and we await a response from LTU.

INFLUENCE

It is notable that the Chancellor has affirmed his desire that jobs be preserved in his Edinburgh constituency. We will be inviting our 150 member Unite group of MPs to do the same and to work together with us to minimise job losses right across the UK, to ensure this is achieved by voluntary means and reduce the detrimental impact on our members and their families. Unite has negotiated excellent agreements with both LTSB and HBOS with regard to Job Security and we will be working to ensure the best of those terms are retained.

We are also using our political and media influence to make the case for better regulation in the sector. To this end, we tabled an emergency motion at the Labour Party conference this week and there will be a special debate in

the Scottish Parliament on Weds Sept 24th.

Unite is the largest union in the TUC which exerts a powerful influence on government bodies at both UK and European level.

Unite itself has the resources in terms of media access, finance and people to support our members in whatever strategy they choose to adopt in response to this takeover. Our officers have considerable experience in dealing with the consequences of mergers and takeovers as well as access to advice re their legal, social and industrial implications.

MEETING

Derek Simpson (Joint General Secretary of Unite) has written to the Chief executive of both LTSB and HBOS seeking urgent talks at the highest levels. We are already meeting with HR from each Company on 24 Sept to initiate the consultation process though it is unclear at this stage whether the HR teams we will be meeting yet have a mandate to meaningfully debate the immediate issues. Subsequently, we are convening an emergency joint meeting of the Unite HBOS and LTSB National Committees early in October.

Feedback

Let us know what you think of this takeover. How do you think it will affect you, your career, your colleagues, the customer? Also let us know if you want to get more involved in Unite in your workplace.

LTSB members E-mail us at ltsb@unitetheunion.com or call 08081 449595

HBOS members E-mail us at hbos.support@unitetheunion.com

Sign up to our email list to receive prompt updates from the union by logging onto My Amicus and updating your records with your email address.

Join Now - Unite LTSB helpline 08081 449595

If you are not yet a member it is time to join Unite the Union in LTSB and HBOS. We have the resources, influence and, most importantly, the unity to protect your interests at this time of change. We also offer reduced subscription rates in both institutions. So join on line at www.unitetheunion.com/joinonline Regular updates will be posted on the LTSB and HBOS pages of our website so regularly visit www.unitetheunion.com/hbos or www.unitetheunion.com/lloydtsb.