TORY GOVERNMENT CUTS OFF UNION LEARNING TO UNITE MEMBERS

Tory ministers have decided to end the Union Learning Fund from March 2021. In 2019 - 20, the ULF was worth £12m. It supported more than 200,000 learners in workplaces across England. This ideological decision will effectively end union employer skills training. We believe this decision is counterproductive, unnecessary and must be reversed.

When tens of thousands of workers are losing their jobs because of the economic devastation caused by the pandemic, cutting training schemes is the last thing ministers should be contemplating.

ULF - The headlines

- Supported 200,000 learners each year benefitting from union learning.
- The return into the economy for each £1 invested through the ULF is £12.30. (Source: Exeter University)
- 87% of employers support union learning.
- Delivering a £1.4bn boost to the economy each year through increased wages and productivity.

The campaign will be intensified over the coming months. This is a blatant political attack on union learning. It is important to note this only affects ULF funding in England.

Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland continue to be supported through their respective Governments. All figures quoted are from ULF activity within England.
THIS IS WHAT WE DO...

Union Learning delivers for Employers, Workers and The Economy. It also delivers for You.

LEARNING AND ORGANISING

The learning and organising footprint left by the Learn with Unite ULF project is important. Union learning organisers engage with industrial officers within their regions and deliver training. The Unite network of union learning representatives (ULRs) and learning centres is the lifeblood of workplace learning and skills.

The ULF project has always had a positive impact on union recruitment and retention. Since the initial lockdown in March this year due to COVID-19, several project staff have worked closely with Unite colleagues in regional membership units. This has had a significant impact on retaining our membership.

Over 1500 new members recruited since April 2019 as a direct result of project activity and staff.

REDUNDANCY SUPPORT

Redundancy support will be a vital resource for our union over the coming months. The Learn with Unite team has extensive knowledge and experience in helping members under threat of redundancy and has increased capacity across the regions to cope with the huge surge in demand. The Members Matter - Redundancy Support resources are now available on the Learn with Unite online platform.

https://www.learnwithunite.org/redundancy-login/regions/
FROM UNITE
"A skilled workforce is the lifeblood that will spearhead the UK’s economic future in this new and changing global economy, when education and training will be at a premium."
Jim Mowatt,
Director of Education, Unite the Union

FROM AN EMPLOYER
"Aviva have been clear in highlighting the benefits of working with Unite and utilising the Union Learning Fund."
Anthony Fitzpatrick,
Head of Employee Relations at Aviva

FROM A ULR
"We give confidence to people whatever age they are. We help them realise they can do it. As a ULR you are proud that you have been able to help somebody."
Susan Mann,
Blackpool Transport
ULR of the Year 2019

FROM A BRANCH
"We have had at least 15 new members during the last year, this has been partly down to your involvement. Your support has helped us to achieve almost 95% membership within our workplace in Sheffield and for this we are very grateful."
Matt Christian (Tradeteam DHL 300/44)

FROM A MEMBER OF THE ULF TEAM
"UMWEP is a remarkable community institution where vulnerable workers can get education - one of the most important things for human beings. We feel proud of Unite because they are fighting with us to get dignity and respect in the workplace"
Carlos Cruz,
Union Learning Organiser and
Lead on Unite Migrant Workers Education Programme
Today, Unite has learning agreements with employers covering 750,000 workers. It is vital for our membership, that the services and skills acquired through ULF support over the last 20 years continue to be supported.

**TAKE ACTION:**
Please sign and share the petition: tell the Education Secretary Gavin Williamson MP. to do the decent thing and reverse the cuts.

**DON’T CUT UNION LEARNING**
We also want to hear from you. Have you benefitted from union learning? Please share your story. Your experiences will help convince the government to reverse this ill-advised cut. Please take 30 seconds to SHARE YOUR STORY https://unitetheunion.org/campaigns/save-union-learning/save-union-learning-share-your-story/

**EMAIL YOUR MP**
Follow the link: https://act.newmode.net/action/saveunionlearning

**SPEAK TO COLLEAGUES IN UNITE!**
Contact the Learn with Unite team for further information.

learnwithunite@unitetheunion.org
Subject: Save Union Learning

USE SOCIAL MEDIA
https://twitter.com/unitetheunion
https://twitter.com/learnwithunite
https://www.facebook.com/learnwithunite.unitetheunion