



## North East Region

### CONTACT US:

Your North East Regional Council  
can be contacted at  
N69a2e@rmt.org.uk

## RE-BALLOT: OCTOBER 18TH

The current strike ballot is due to expire, and it is imperative our North East members vote YES to continue to defend our jobs, pay and conditions.

Rail bosses are continuing to make enormous, obscene profits at the expense of the workers, and we cannot let this continue without a fight - even with mass propaganda from the media and rail management trying to undermine us at every opportunity. Our strikes over the last six months, supported by the excellent action from our General Secretary and union officials, are showing the government that we will not stand for this. We must stay strong and show we will not roll over after a token effort.



With the new Transport Secretary potentially willing to engage with the RMT, or at least to meet with our representatives (more than her predecessor deigned to do), a decisive YES vote now will strengthen our negotiators' position when they come to debate.

Remember this dispute is not just about pay rises or percentages: we are fighting against the so-called 'modernisation' of the railway that will lead to tragic safety failures, redundancies, and yet more profit in the bosses' pockets. Can we as a region be seen to approve this?

We need at least 50% turnout for the ballot to be legal so if you are reading this: get in your mess room, get in your depot, and speak to every person you can. As the rallies and protests around our strike action on October 1st showed, we have massive public support: let's keep the action rolling and show the government just how strong we are.

The employers will try to undermine the ballot by encouraging RMT members not to vote: **don't let them steal your voice!**

## ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!

October 1st 2022 will go down in history as the 'Mega Strike' - RMT, ASLEF, TSSA, and the CWU all took to the picket lines, over 170,000 workers out in force at the same time. On the same day, rallies were held across the country to protest the cost of living crisis and the Tory ineptitude that is bringing the UK to its knees.

Newcastle provided the backdrop for an excellent day of protest and solidarity, with a rally at Grey's Monument led by the Enough Is Enough campaign and the People's Assembly.



Well over 1000 people were in attendance, listening to an eclectic mix of speakers from the CWU, UCU, ACORN, PCS, TUC, NUFC Fans Foodbank, as well as Hairy Biker Si King, Ian Lavery MP, North Tyne Mayor Jamie Driscoll, and our own Women's Officer Jessica Robinson speaking on behalf of RMT.

After the rally, the hundreds of people present formed a huge snake through Newcastle city centre, led by RMT members Jack Paul and Graeme Marshall. The chants of "ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!" echoed through the city as the protest marched to the joint RMT and ASLEF picket line at Newcastle Central Station.

People from all walks of life told their stories and gave their support to the picket, swept up in the spirit of protest and solidarity. It showed just how much the public is still on our side - indeed, polls are showing that support for the rail strikes is reaching new highs every day.

It is imperative that we continue to stand strong and keep doing our union proud - with such a massive movement behind us, together we can win!



FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE ENOUGH IS ENOUGH  
CAMPAIGN VISIT:  
[www.wesayenough.co.uk](http://www.wesayenough.co.uk)

# THE NORTH EAST SHOWS ITS DETERMINATION



Picket lines across the North East stood firm again this month, well-supported by the public, pressure groups and MPs alike. With a strong YES vote in the re-ballot, we can continue to stand strong together and fight for our jobs, terms and conditions, and our well-earned pay rise.



## NATIONAL DEMONSTRATION BRITAIN IS BROKEN STRIKE PROTEST RESIST

SUPPORTED BY SO FAR:



MORE ORGANISATIONS TO BE ANNOUNCED



REMEMBER REMEMBER...  
**5TH NOVEMBER**

**ASSEMBLE 12NOON EMBANKMENT LONDON**

REMEMBER,  
REMEMBER...  
THE FIFTH OF  
NOVEMBER

The People's Assembly is organising a mass rally and protest march in London on November 5th. Thousands are expected to attend and make their voices heard, including leading figures from the RMT

Officers from your North East Regional Council will be attending and we hope to see as many members as can travel marching alongside us.

Please see the People's Assembly North East Facebook page for more information, including coach travel.

# BALLOT TIMETABLE AND REPLACEMENT PAPERS: BULLETIN FROM HEAD OFFICE



*Ballot papers are being sent by Civica, the independent scrutineer, to your home address by second class post. The ballot will open on Tuesday 18th October 2022.*

*If you or any of your colleagues have not received your voting paper by Monday 24th October 2022 please contact us by email at [ballot@rmt.org.uk](mailto:ballot@rmt.org.uk). Please include your job title, workplace, and home address in your email.*

*You can also contact us at [info@rmt.org.uk](mailto:info@rmt.org.uk) or by calling the freephone helpline on 0800 376 3706.*

*During the course of the ballot, you will also receive a text from your RMT Rep/Activist to ask whether you have received your ballot paper. This is a genuine communication from RMT and you can also use this channel to request a replacement paper or ask a question.*

**RMT NORTH EAST  
MASS MEMBERS MEETING**

**SAT 29th OCTOBER at 10.00 AM  
ROYAL STATION HOTEL - NEWCASTLE**

**CUT  
FARES  
NOT  
GUARDS**

**KEEP  
THE  
GUARD  
ON THE  
TRAIN**

**SAFE  
TRAINS  
FOR  
ALL**

**WOMEN'S SAFETY  
BEFORE  
PROFITS**

**RMT**

**DEFENDING RAIL JOBS,  
SERVICES & SAFETY**

**SPEAKERS:  
MICK LYNCH - GENERAL SECRETARY  
DAVID KING - NORTH EAST NEC**

# REGIONAL CONTACTS

## NERC CONTACTS

Dave King - Executive Member North East  
[d.king@rmt.org.uk](mailto:d.king@rmt.org.uk)

Martin McCleary - Lead Recruiter  
Tel: 07711 570848

[berwickrail@rmt.org.uk](mailto:berwickrail@rmt.org.uk)

Donald Graham - Org Unit  
Tel: 07753 748074

[d.graham@rmt.org.uk](mailto:d.graham@rmt.org.uk)

Jessica Robinson - Women's Officer  
Tel: 07784 224412

[jpleather89@gmail.com](mailto:jpleather89@gmail.com)

We welcome contributions to this newsletter - if you would like to write an article, please contact any one of the officers above.

## BRANCH EMAILS

Bedlington: [bedlington@rmt.org.uk](mailto:bedlington@rmt.org.uk)

Berwick Rail: [berwickrail@rmt.org.uk](mailto:berwickrail@rmt.org.uk)

Newcastle & Gateshead:

[newcastlegateshead@rmt.org.uk](mailto:newcastlegateshead@rmt.org.uk)

Newcastle Rail & Catering:

[newcastlerailcatering@rmt.org.uk](mailto:newcastlerailcatering@rmt.org.uk)

North East Shipping:

[northeastshipping@rmt.org.uk](mailto:northeastshipping@rmt.org.uk)

Darlington: [darlington1@rmt.org.uk](mailto:darlington1@rmt.org.uk)

Teesside: [teesside@rmt.org.uk](mailto:teesside@rmt.org.uk)

York & District: [yorkdistrict@rmt.org.uk](mailto:yorkdistrict@rmt.org.uk)

North York Moors:

[north.moorsRail@rmt.org.uk](mailto:north.moorsRail@rmt.org.uk)

Hexham: [hexhamrail@rmt.org.uk](mailto:hexhamrail@rmt.org.uk)



## REGIONAL OFFICES

Thomas Steels House  
49a Thorne Road  
Doncaster DN1 2EX  
Tel: 01302 760694

North East Shipping Office  
Unit 17 Cookson House  
River Drive  
South Shields NE33 1TL  
Tel: 01914 561308

**Branch meeting dates will be communicated in local depots - if you have any concerns, please contact your branch representative.**

## SOCIAL MEDIA

Twitter: @RMTunion  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/RMTunion](http://www.facebook.com/RMTunion)



**RMT MEMBERS' HELPLINE: 0800 376 3706**