



'Our Work Matters': Outsourced workers need the New Deal

Did you know?...

There are around 10,000 outsourced cleaners working to clean trains and stations on our railways and Underground network. These cleaners worked throughout the pandemic and continue to work today to keep our rail services clean and safe.

Because they are outsourced to private companies, these cleaners have lower pay and no access to sick pay or decent pension provision in retirement. In a recent survey, **84% of rail cleaners said they sometimes or regularly struggled to make ends meet**. 1 in 3 are relying on credit cards to cover everyday spending. 28% said they are missing meals and 26% reported having to cut spending on their children. 13% of cleaners, more than one in 10, reported resorting to food banks in the last year.

Rail cleaners don't even get the same free and discounted travel facilities that are given to many other rail workers. But guess who does get free travel? That's s right, **the directors of rail companies**, people whose pay dwarfs that of the people who clean their stations and trains by magnitudes.

We can and must change this

In its *New Deal for Working People*, Labour has pledged **to 'end the presumption in favour of outsourcing and oversee the biggest wave of insourcing of public services for a generation'**. Wherever and whenever Labour is in power it must implement the New Deal.

The Mayor of London has given travel facilities to all outsourced cleaners working for TfL and London Underground and agreed to explore bringing cleaning in-house on the Tube as the outsourcing contract ends. In Wales, Labour has gone further and insourced rail cleaners on Welsh railways entirely. Sadiq Khan must now **commit to bringing these 2,000 Tube cleaners in-house**.

If it forms the next government, Labour's Secretary of State for the Future of Work should **direct other Secretaries of State to insource all outsourced contracts as they expire and to conduct reviews into ongoing contracts**, testing them for public and social value as well as cost, and insourcing them wherever this can be shown to be better value. Labour should also implement the other aspects of the New Deal immediately, including Fair Pay Agreements, raising and universalising Sick Pay and bringing in 'Day One' employment rights.

What you can do today:

1. Sign EDM 1301 calling on Secretary of State for Transport Mark Harper to give all outsourced rail cleaners free travel on our network: (<https://edm.parliament.uk/early-day-motion/61036>)
2. Write to Sadiq Khan and urge him to seize this opportunity to insource the Tube cleaners.