

**URGENT COMMUNICATION
TO ALL UNITE BRANCHES FROM THE JOINT GENERAL SECRETARIES**

Dear Colleagues

BA Branch Administration Donation

This is to advise you of the Executive Council decision taken yesterday in relation to supporting our cabin crew membership on strike at British Airways, and to clear up any misconceptions which have arisen as a result of media reporting.

The Executive Council, taking note of the significance of this dispute and the bullying methods used by the employer (which include docking many of our members several days of pay for each day of strike action taken), agreed to a mandatory donation from branch administration funds to support them.

What this means is that two per cent of the income for one quarter (a figure which equates to roughly £700,000) which would normally be remitted to the branches for their own use be instead used to support our thousands of striking members at BA, some of whom are facing real hardship.

To be completely clear - this is **not** a levy on the membership, as it has been misreported in some places. The members of Unite do not have to pay an extra penny as a result of this decision.

What it does mean is that those former T&G branches which normally get ten per cent of their income remitted, for example, will, for the next quarter, receive eight per cent instead. In the case of former Amicus branches the two per cent will be taken out of those funds held centrally from which branches may apply for support under existing procedures.

We are sure that all branches will appreciate the need for Unite to extend appropriate support to our members engaged in a legitimate industrial dispute in the teeth of considerable media hostility, and that this reallocation of our income is a simple and efficient way to do so.

If you have any queries regarding the operation of this donation, please contact your appropriate regional office.

Yours sincerely,

Derek Simpson
Tony Woodley
Joint General Secretaries

