Dear Member,

Bus E-News: More Traineeships for Members

Your Union has just negotiated a way forward on traineeships which will result in another large trainee intake. This will mean more guaranteed work and job security for hundreds more of our members. We have managed to secure more improvements to the engagement process. This is a huge step forward and a massive blow to Council's casualisation plan, in fact it's almost the death knell.

As you are aware we have had a long running dispute with Council over trainee recruitment and it is now starting to pay off. The key selection criteria from the recruitment process has now been amended to better suit our casual bus drivers which will lead to more drivers being accepted for traineeships or placed on the order of merit. I encourage any driver who has not been successful under the old criteria to apply again next time round - they will find the whole process much better suited to them.

It is proposed to return to the previous quota method of engaging trainees, however the agreed ratio will be 75% internal to 25% new recruits instead of the 60/40 agreement that existed previously. Remember we are committed to the principal of internal recruitment first, we will never move away from this position. Council will firstly exhaust its order of merit, then recruit internally, and only then go external if required.

Thanks to all members for your support on this important issue. You have shown great resilience throughout this campaign and our most vulnerable members will now reap the reward.

The Union now intends to step up its recognised prior learning (RPL) campaign. Through this we hope to get our members to full time permanent positions sooner.

Unity is Strength

Tom Brown
Secretary, Tram and Bus Division