

LGBT members in UNISON – how to get involved

Are you a lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender member of UNISON?

How do you find out about our work on LGBT equality?

Check out UNISON LGBT webpages unison.org.uk/out . They're updated regularly and include lots of information on LGBT workplace rights, UNISON events and our campaigns, including our million voices campaign to defend public services.

While there you can:

- sign up for the monthly LGBT e-bulletin
- sign up to our confidential LGBT mailing list – to receive hard copies of our newsletter *Out In UNISON* and details of UNISON LGBT conference
- find contact details for your regional LGBT group.

Not online?

To get any of this information, you can:

- ring UNISONdirect 0845 355 0845 (voice) or 0800 096 7968 (minicom)
- write to Carola Towle, national officer - LGBT Equality, UNISON Centre, 130 Euston Road, London NW1 2AY
- email out@unison.co.uk .

How can you get involved?

Each of UNISON's 12 regions has an LGBT group. They have their own confidential mailing lists, regular meetings, organise training for activists, elect representatives to UNISON national LGBT committee and play an active part in all the union's work in the region.

Some branches have their own LGBT officer. Their name and contact details should be widely publicised in the branch, so you can find out who it is without outing yourself. Your regional group can tell you which branches have LGBT groups.

All branches should have an equality co-ordinator and many will have workplace equality reps.

There's lots of ways you can get involved.

Speak to your regional LGBT contact, branch LGBT officer or workplace equality rep to find out more.

LGBT Members in UNISON – how to get involved

Who can go to UNISON's national LGBT conference?

Our national LGBT conference takes place every year in November, attended by hundreds of UNISON LGBT members. We debate issues facing us as LGBT workers and trade unionists and help direct UNISON's work for LGBT equality.

Any UNISON member who identifies as LGB or T can apply to their branch to attend. Branches have the right to decide how many members to send, but all are urged to register at least one delegate.

If you want to go, ask your branch when and how they agree the delegation. If you're not out in your branch, speak to your regional contact.

Are you a Black or disabled LGBT member?

We hold annual meetings for Black and disabled LGBT members to network, identify issues and discuss proposals for national LGBT conference. There are reserved seats for Black and disabled members on the national LGBT committee. Black and disabled LGBT members also meet at national LGBT conference.

Are you a bisexual or transgender member?

We are determined to make sure bi and trans issues are fully addressed in our work. There are annual meetings for bi and trans members to network, identify issues and discuss proposals for national LGBT conference. There are reserved seats for bi and trans members on the national LGBT committee. Bi and trans members also meet at national LGBT conference.

Details about all these meetings are sent to branches, to members on the national LGBT mailing list, posted online, included in our e-bulletin and publicised in *Out in UNISON*. You don't need to be out in your branch to attend. Travel costs are met centrally.

Confidentiality

You can get involved in all this without having to be out in work.

We take confidentiality very seriously.