

**GMB UNION**  
**POLITICAL FUND**



**BRIEFING FOR REPS**  
**RECRUITING NEW**  
**MEMBERS**



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## **GMB ASKS ALL NEW MEMBERS TO SIGN UP TO OUR POLITICAL FUND – A SMALL WEEKLY LEVY TO HELP US FIGHT FOR YOU THROUGH POLITICS. THE TICK BOX IS AT THE BOTTOM OF THE MEMBERSHIP FORM AND ON THE ONLINE JOINING PROCESS.**

Decisions that affect our members at work aren't just taken by employers, but are also taken by the government. Pay, pensions, working hours, protection from unfair dismissal and discrimination and our ability to represent people at work as a union are just some of the issues the government has a say over.

**So in order to stand up for members in the workplace, we need not just an industrial voice but a political voice as well.**

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### **WHAT POLITICAL WORK DOES GMB DO?**

- We **develop and promote our own ideas about the industries our members work in** to promote and protect good jobs.
- We **campaign** to put pressure on the government and politicians to make sure the decisions they take benefit our members.
- We **support and train GMB members** to become politically active and get involved in politics, including standing for public office themselves.
- And we **work with other trade unions and organisations that share our values** to build support for our agenda on issues from employment rights to the NHS.

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## WHAT ABOUT BROADER CAMPAIGNS?

We stand up for members on other issues that matter to them which are decided on by GMB Congress and democratically elected bodies in the union.

For instance, we campaign for funding for the NHS; for decent, affordable housing; for a state pension that guarantees a good standard of living in retirement; and against cuts to services (like schools and public transport) that our members and their families rely on.

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## WHAT ABOUT THE LABOUR PARTY?

GMB is affiliated to the Labour Party which means we get a say in its policy making and can try to make sure it stands up for our members. We work to get GMB members as Labour candidates to ensure it reflects our members' views.

The Labour Party is the only political party that gives trade unions like ours a say in what it does so this is an important way that we can exert influence in politics.

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## WHAT IS THE POLITICAL LEVY?

GMB asks new members to opt in to our political fund, which is funded through a small weekly levy.

The fund supports a range of work including lobbying the government, broader public campaigns, research to develop policy ideas, our affiliation to Labour and providing training and other support for GMB members who want to get active in politics.

MORE ABOUT GMB POLITICS:  
[WWW.GMB.ORG.UK/POLITICS](http://WWW.GMB.ORG.UK/POLITICS)

**TEAM**  
**GMB**

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## **GMB POLITICAL OFFICERS**

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**Join GMB now online at**

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