

# Worker-Climate Conference

22nd & 23rd October | Victoria Hall, Sheffield

LGND aims to contribute to the development of a worker movement which can address climate change by hosting a national '**Worker-Climate Conference**'. To achieve this, LGND's Trade Union team has begun to bring together the range of organisers engaged in this work, to build relationships; discuss experience; and plan future strategy.

From February to May 2022, four online workshops brought together potential participants to discuss elements of current worker-climate organising which are feeding into the design of conference sessions. These sessions have also contributed to a

greater understanding of the existing worker climate organising landscape in the UK, and what kinds of networking, resourcing and development can be created to build a cohesive worker climate movement.

Hosting an in person conference, now delayed to October 2022, is the next element in this work in order to bring together trade unionists organising around climate justice. This will be a forum to share knowledge, plan and strategise for the future of climate justice organising both in and around the workplace.

## LOGISTICS AND CONTENT

- The conference will take place in Sheffield, on the weekend of **October 22/23rd at Victoria Hall (S1 2JB)**
- Sessions will run from **11-6pm on Saturday, 9.30-2pm Sunday**
- The conference will include discussions of:
  - **Propositional worker-climate demands in the 21st century:** Exploring propositional demands, giving participants a chance to think ambitiously about the kind of movement which can be built, and the wins it can achieve.
  - **Evaluation of worker-climate organising in 2020/21:** A chance to share and reflect upon participants' organising in the last two years. Includes group discussions and opportunity for participants to talk one to one with each other about the overlap/differences in their organising approaches.
  - **Just transition:** Divided by sectors: public, private, and high-carbon industry, this will be an opportunity to examine the specific dynamics of organising towards socialist decarbonisation in different industries and legal frameworks.
  - **Local organising:** Examine how worker-climate efforts should work constructively with local union and climate organising, using the LGND local transport campaigns as an example.
  - **Models of organising in UK unions:** Considering how organising for climate in UK unions can effectively take place based on specific dynamics and opportunities of different unions.

# PARTICIPANTS

Aiming for 100 participants, we will invite individuals from across the labour movement who have had significant involvement in worker-climate organising, allowing the conference to be a chance for participants to learn from each other's practical efforts.

We aim for these participants to come from across a range of UK unions, as well as cross-union organisations such as TUC/STUC.

# OUTCOMES

- **Develop key aims and demands for UK worker-climate organising**, such as: developing a cohesive cross-union climate bargaining agenda, building and utilising a set of methods for workers to legally take industrial action on climate related issues in workplaces.
- **Create network of worker-climate organisers to continue planning and collaborating, and understand which activities require cross-union coordination**, utilising existing organisations which can support this e.g. TUC/STUC, and proposing new forms of network where needed.
- **Identify immediate next steps for organising**: spreading political and practical education for workplaces, branches and regions around methods for useful worker-climate action; support worker groups in developing their own 'Lucas Plan' style propositions for decarbonisation of their industry/workplace.
- **Understand the role for LGND TU team in future efforts**, this could be: organising follow-up conferences on more specific tactics/methods; facilitating knowledge-sharing between worker-climate networks being developed.

# MODEL MOTION AND FUNDING

We are seeking funds from various sources:

- **Donations from Trade Unions and allied organisations**: So far we have received funds from the national level of FBU, but we need support from other unions to make this conference possible. These funds will cover our core costs, help subsidise participants who are not able to attain funding from their branch/organisation, and if possible to bring down the overall ticket prices we are asking participants for. More information and a format for applying to your national/regional union structures for funding can be found [here](#).
- **Tickets and branch funding**: Using the model motion linked [here](#), we are asking participants to apply to their branch asking for: base ticket cost of £30, accommodation and travel costs, as well as an additional donation if the branch wants to give further support to the conference. We understand that not all participants will be able to get this funding from their branch, so we are working to make sure we are able to subsidise these participants as much as possible