

BT Scot & NI Circular

Prospect conference addresses protections on AI & working environment

The Biennial Conference of Prospect met in Birmingham 9-11 June. Hundreds of delegates including those from BT branches heard from TUC General Secretary, Paul Nowak on the importance of a new deal for people at work after the Election.



Debates took place on several issues of current concern to BT members:

Artificial Intelligence (AI)

A number of motions addressed the issue of AI and safeguards that need to be in place to make sure it works for the common good and is not just used as another excuse for job cuts. A delegate from the Air Traffic Controllers branch underlined that AI could not replace HI - Human Intelligence. Prospect in BT has an AI Charter and is working to socialise this across the Company.

Working Environment

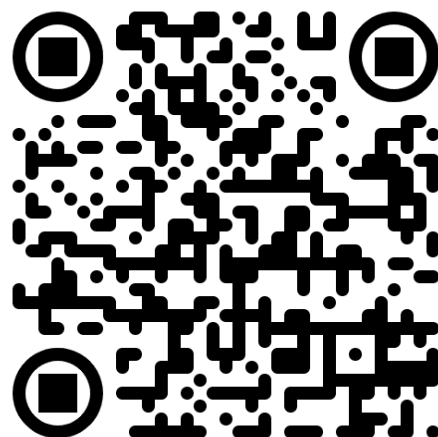
there was considerable informed debate on issues around working in offices, from home and hybrid models. A further focus was on flexible working and a 4 day week. What was clear from across the private and public sectors is that there is not a one size fits all solution. A focus on operational requirements and personal circumstances is essential to find a balance that works.

Pay and Bonus

Members should have received notification of their 2024 pay and bonus awards. As in earlier Prospect comms while a quantum of up to 4% was available for pay the Union expects everyone to get at least 2% - around the current inflation rate. Exceptions are possible but if you didn't get at least 2% you should query why this was with the line in the first instance.

General Election

The news that there is a General Election on 4 July can hardly be avoided. Prospect members will as usual vote for a range of parties and on a range of issues. The key thing is to vote in an informed way. The Prospect website has a section (via QR code) focused on the Election which looks at the impact of proposals from the main parties on the world of work to assist in this.



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