

**Motion Date:** 8<sup>th</sup> May 2018  
**Motion Title:** Membership Fee Reductions for Organising Campaigns

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**This union notes:**

That trade union membership continues to fall across the economy. According to the Resolution Foundation, rates of union membership need to double amongst the under 35s by 2030 to stop the long-term decline in numbers.

Wages across the economy have the longest period without real growth since the 18th century, which is leading to a massive squeeze on disposable income.

There is a need for the union to grow in strategic sectors or employers where it has not traditionally been strong as the economy changes and automation develops.

Members have reported to our representatives that subs in excess of £15 per calendar month as *“sometimes the difference between eating and not”*. Younger members in particular, often with insecure incomes, struggle to pay.

**We believe:**

That the cost of joining Unite should come down during organising and recruitment campaigns. It could help incentivise membership growth in strategic sectors or employers. Lower fees will aid recruitment, particularly during the difficult period of establishing a presence, profile, and track record of success.

**We resolve:**

To allow branches to apply a reduced cost of union membership for an agreed limited period, to be decided according to the particular circumstances of the workplace, where targeted recruitment activity is taking place. The recommended rate will be £10 per calendar month for full-time, and £6 per calendar month for part-time members, with no loss of benefits to the members.

This resolution will be forwarded to the Regional Committee for consideration, and if successful, to the Executive Council.