
Resolution Date: 8th January 2019

Resolution Title: Unite Community Recognition (Rule Change)

This branch notes that each branch is entitled to submit one proposed amendment to union rules through the 2018 Unite Rules Conference. The Branch unanimously agreed that a decision on which rule change to submit, if any, would be taken at the branch meeting on 12th February 2019. The following resolution will be considered alongside any other submissions received one week ahead of the branch meeting, and the successful motion will be selected by a vote of members in attendance:

“This branch notes that the Unite Community sector is not fully enfranchised. It is not fully integrated and recognised in the formal structures governing our union.

We support the membership of Unite Community in their struggle for fair representation within the wider Unite the union structures. Unite Community is a growing, varied and active sector of the union that has consistently shown support for our industrial sisters and brothers.

This branch believes the time has come to fully recognise the Community sector within the Unite family. Unite Community does not seek to influence or to undermine the value of industrial membership but should be recognised and appreciated.

Most Unite Community members are unpaid workers. Unite should fully recognise the value that voluntary, caring and other unpaid work has within our community. Unpaid workers can be as easily exploited as paid workers.

Unite Community is a diverse group of skilled, active, valuable and intelligent people, working within the community for their communities. They make an active contribution to society. They defend the governing principles of the union. They promote a member-led movement fighting for equality and fairness throughout society as well as within the workplace.

The Unite Community sector should have full representation at all levels within the union equal to industrial members, to advocate the industrial and social interests of unpaid workers. Unite Community delegates to these structures would be accountable representatives of unpaid workers.

All Unite members should have the right to have their voices heard and to access the equality structures of the union.

Action: *This branch will submit a rule change to the 2019 Rules Conference that will provide Unite Community members with equal status to that of industrial members of the union.”*