

UPDATE

for UCU Reps in the

North West Region

UCU

University and College Union

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Fund the Future and local campaigns

Strong support for local initiatives in the North West as branches develop campaigns

UCU branches across the North West have begun to develop campaigns to defend against any proposed cuts to jobs and to build the UCU [Fund the Future](#) campaign across the region.

The University of Liverpool UCU branch has hosted online rallies [attended by the UCU General Secretary Jo Grady](#) whilst [local MPs](#) have expressed their support for the branch's Defend All Jobs campaign. Meanwhile the University of Manchester UCU branch has launched its [Crisis Justice Campaign](#) to defend jobs and to outline a vision for a better future for the university.

Blackburn College UCU branch's campaign against proposed redundancies at Blackburn College has received support from local MPs and local councillors and from the public in [a very successful petition](#). The branch are now inviting you to write directly to [the principal and chief executive of Blackburn College, Dr Fazal Dad](#) to ask that he halts plans for job cuts.

If you need advice and support with your branch campaign, email the Regional Office.

Online rep training

UCU has begun to move its training content [online](#).

A number of courses, including new training on risk assessments have been announced. Meanwhile details of the [TUC's Organise 2020](#), a three day event from 9-11 July for union reps have been announced; you can sign up for free [here](#).

Risk assessments update

As consultations in FE continue, the risk assessment process starts to accelerate in HE

For the past month, UCU FE reps, with the support of the Regional Office, have been undertaking consultations with employers over risk assessments about plans for partial returns to onsite working during June and July. Last week UCU NW Regional Office wrote to all HE employers to outline the need for full consultations on risk assessments.

Over the past weeks, UCU NW has also run special sessions on risk assessments for local reps in the webinar and updated national [guidance](#) is also available online. For support with consultations, contact the Regional Office.

TUC COVID secure check

Support the TUC campaign to ensure safety of workers

The safety of working people is of paramount importance as we face a return to work and a new normal and the TUC needs your help. Their new COVID Secure Check collects the COVID-19 risk assessments published by employers and monitors good and bad practices. The evidence gathered will be used to improve everyone's working conditions during the pandemic.

What you can do:

- Ask reps within your branch to find risk assessments in their workplace. They would then need to go on to the website and log the risk assessment using the steps on there. <https://covidsecurecheck.uk/>
- Use the form yourselves on the ['Workplace Monitor'](#) section and fill in the survey.
- Promote the survey amongst your reps and members.

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