



# Calderdale Trades Council

## Annual Report 2021-2022

### Introduction

Calderdale Trades Council has had an active year in which we have grown stronger. A new group of officers has worked together well. Daniel Whittall has proved to be an excellent chair, well representing the Trades Council in several public facing roles. He has been ably supported by Vice-Chair Nigel Smith. Sadly Loretta Self had to step back from her role as

assistant secretary and involvement in the Trades Council. Many thanks must be extended to Pete Keal for his help with many of the secretarial roles, including creating beautiful and regular email newsletters, as well as reprising his official role in what, this year proved to be a busy, treasurer job.

### Campaigns and activities

Our biggest activity this year was commemorating the 180<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the **Halifax 1842 Great Strike**. A successful public meeting was held in July at the **Calderdale Industrial Museum** which attracted a wider audience than other trades council meetings and awakened people to the hidden history of our class. Calderdale Industrial Museum also agreed to be the location for the installation of the Great Strike commemorative plaque. This plaque was unveiled in August as was a new information board about the Chartists buried at **Lister Lane Cemetery**. A well supported march from the Cemetery to the Industrial Museum took place with a stop at Halifax's infamous **Gibbet**. There was a variety of speakers both at the Industrial Museum and during the march. A specially brewed **Great Strike Ale** was available and the music provided at the **Grayston Unity** completed the day's events. Many thanks to all who worked hard to make this a success.

We organised a delayed TUC **Heart Unions** week street stall and leafletting in Halifax in early March. We supported TUC **We Demand Better** leafletting at Halifax station in October.

This year saw the return of the Trades Council's **May Day** event, which was held at

Hebden Bridge Trades Club. There was a selection of speakers, poetry and musical entertainment at the event.

The Trades Council held two other successful public meetings. In March, we organised a screening followed by a Q&A session of the film "**Ultraviolence**" about the deaths of black people in police custody. In April, we were honoured to host **Helen Steel** speaking about the book **Deep Deception** which covers her and other women's experiences of undercover police officers. Unfortunately a meeting featuring **Barry Gardiner MPs Fire and Re-Hire** film had to be cancelled and will be rearranged.

The theme for International Workers' Memorial Day 2022 on 28 April was **Make safe and healthy work a fundamental right**. Calderdale Trades Council in conjunction with Calderdale Unison organised a wreath laying and speeches at the Workers' Memorial Day stone outside Halifax Central Library.

In November, the Trades Council helped organise an "Enough is Enough" rally in Halifax.

The Chair of the Trades Council spoke at a rally against the **Nationality and Borders Bill** in Halifax and at a rally in support of **SOS**

**NHS** in Hebden Bridge both in February. The Vice-Chair of the Trades Council spoke at a **Freedom For Iran** rally in Halifax in October.

The Trades Council also supported: the **Kill the Bill** demonstration against the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill in Leeds in January; the national **March Against Racism** in London in March; **With Banners Held High** in Wakefield in May; the TUC **We Demand Better** national demonstration in London in June; the **Regional March for the NHS** in July in Leeds; the Huddersfield **Enough Is Enough** march and rally in October; and the regional demonstration organised by **Climate Justice Coalition** groups in Sheffield during **COP27** in November.

### *Solidarity and affiliations*

We are registered with the TUC as a Trades Union Council.

During the year, we made donations to Leeds Keep Our NHS Public, RMT Yorkshire and Lincolnshire Hardship Fund, Calderdale NEU towards the cost of screening followed by a Q&A of the film **Powerlands** at Square Chapel, Halifax and an international Trade Union appeal towards **Flood Relief in Pakistan**.

### *Looking ahead*

We hope to retain a good, strong complement of officers to go forward into the New Year, and welcome interested delegates to join us to face the challenges ahead. There are a growing number of strikes and strike ballots across the country in different workplaces and sectors of the economy. The Trades Council remains determined to support workers in struggle and to ensure that ordinary people do not pay the price for the economic crisis by

Speakers at meetings of the Trades Council have included a **Unite rep. on the dispute with East Lancs NHS Trust**, a speaker for the families of **Bloody Sunday**, an **RMT** speaker and most recently a speaker for the **CWU**.

An important role for Trades Councils is to offer solidarity and support to workers in dispute. Trades Council activists have taken our banner to pickets in support of **UCU**, **CWU** and **RMT**. We have also supported demonstrations against low wages paid to outsourced porters, cleaners and catering staff at Calderdale Royal Hospital called by the **GMB** and the **Defend Paul Holmes** (of Kirklees Unison) **Campaign**.

We have affiliated to Calderdale Valley of Sanctuary, Campaign Against Climate Change Trade Union Group, CND, Cuba Solidarity Campaign, Friends of Durham Miners' Gala, Health Campaigns Together, National Shop Stewards Network, People's Assembly, Stand Up to Racism, Stop the War Coalition, Strike Map UK, Venezuela Solidarity Campaign, Yorkshire and the Humber Pensioners' Convention and Yorkshire Youth Fight for Jobs.

supporting picket lines, inviting speakers, supporting rallies and demonstrations and by arguing for the interests of trades union members and for the unity of our class. We will continue to seek to build the Trades Council locally, encouraging branches to affiliate and trades unionists to participate however they can. There is much to be hoped for in the year ahead and much that will need to be done.

*Kevin Stannard*  
*Secretary*

## ***Officers 2021-2022***

Chair: Daniel Whittall, Calderdale NEU

Vice-Chair: Nigel Smith, Unite Community Halifax and Calder Valley

Secretary: Kevin Stannard, Unite Not4Profit NE403/15

Assistant Secretary: Loretta Self, Calderdale NASUWT (until June 2022)

Treasurer: Pete Keal, Equity Leeds & Region General

E-mail: [info@calderdaletuc.org.uk](mailto:info@calderdaletuc.org.uk)

Web: <http://calderdaletuc.org.uk>

Twitter: @calderdaletuc

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/calderdaletuc>

## ***Affiliated branches 2021-2022***

BFAWU Suma  
CWU Bradford & District Amalgamated  
CWU Manchester Combined  
CWU North West No. 1  
CWU West Yorkshire  
Equity Leeds & Region General  
FBU Calderdale Division  
GMB B05 Organising (formerly Brighthouse General)  
NASUWT Calderdale  
NEU Calderdale  
NUJ Leeds & Wakefield  
PCS ARMS Yorks and Humber  
RMT Leeds City  
UCU University of Huddersfield

UNISON Bradford Calderdale and  
Huddersfield Health  
UNISON Calderdale  
UNISON South West Yorkshire  
Partnership Health  
Unite Community Halifax & Calder Valley  
Unite Leeds Geographic NE/GEO/12  
Unite Marshalls NE/404/8  
Unite Nestlé NE100/10  
Unite Not4Profit NE403/15  
Unite W Yorks Retired Members  
USDAW South and West Yorks Coop  
F007  
USDAW West Yorks Private Trade F031

Calderdale Trades Council

Accounts for year 1 October 2021 to 30 September 2022

£

RECEIPTS

Affiliation fees	420.00
Donations	2,630.00
TUC grants	300.00
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TOTAL RECEIPTS	<b>£3,350.00</b>

PAYMENTS

Campaign support	3,015.00
Great Strike plaque activities	1,601.00
Publicity and advertising	81.99
Affiliation fees, etc.	470.00
Zoom subscription	172.68
Travel and subsistence	203.90
Postage, print and stationery	1.89
Room hire	0.00
Bank charges	26.80
Other	5.06
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TOTAL PAYMENTS	<b>£5,578.32</b>

EXCESS OF PAYMENTS OVER RECEIPTS **(£2,228.32)**  
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Statement of balances at 30 September 2022

£

Balance brought forward 01.10.21	£5,753.24
Deduct deficit for year	(£2,228.32)
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Net funds 30.9.22	<b>£3,524.92</b>
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Bank and cash balances 30.9.21	
Current account	£3,524.92
Petty cash	£0.00
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Bank and cash	<b>£3,524.92</b>
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*Kevin Stannard, secretary*

*Pete Keal, treasurer*

## **Auditors' Report**

We have examined the Accounts, Cashbooks, Bank Statements, Invoices, Receipts and other financial documents of Calderdale Trades Council. In our opinion the Accounts and Statement of Balances give a true and fair view of Calderdale Trades Council's finances as at

30 September 2022 and of the excess of Receipts over Payments for the year then ended.

*Jane Rendle and Jackie Wood, auditors*

## **Treasurer's Report**

Calderdale Trades Council's accounts show an excess of spending compared with receipts of £2,228.32 this year. This reflects substantial expenditure in connection with the 1842 Great Strike commemorations. Much of the funding for these events was raised in the previous financial year - last year's accounts showed a surplus of £1,437.98. Currently the Trades Council has spent or committed £574 more than it has received in connection with the Great Strike. However, there are still bills to be paid as well as grants to be claimed relating to Great Strike activities.

It is also of some concern that the Trades council's balances in our Annual Accounts have fallen below £4,000 for the first time

since the revival of Calderdale Trades Council in 2012. Nevertheless, the Trades Council is fortunate in having some balances which we can fall back on to fund our campaigning and solidarity activities. However, the need to bring our income into better balance with our spending is becoming more urgent.

Last year's Treasurer's Report listed those who donated to the initial Great Strike commemorations appeal. Calderdale Trades Council wishes to also thank NUJ Leeds and Wakefield and Unite Marshalls branches and D Lee for their generous donations towards this in 2022.

*Pete Keal, treasurer*