



LGBT+ AGM 2023 highlights intersectional issues whilst promoting year of Black workers

October 21st saw delegates attend our AGM at UNISON West Campbell Street where our new committee was elected, with Watty Gaffney being re-elected, and Kay Marie Hughes taking the role as co-convenor.

The committee noted thanks to Chrissy McKeag who steps down as co-convenor to concentrate on her role as chair of the STUC LGBT+ workers committee.

We welcomed our new secretary Matt Valenti and give our thanks and gratitude to Elaine Duffy for her years of note and minute taking both as a committee member and as a visiting retired member. This year we had 5 new committee members take positions and

we look forward to working closely together over the next 12 months as we approach a busy and important year for LGBT+ workers.

Raza Sadiq from UNISON Scotland Black Members Committee spoke enthusiastically about the committee's work this year and discussed the concerning results from the Black members survey and work undertaken this year to address what members describe as a lack communication, visibility, and representation of Black members in branches and across the union. The LGBT+ committee assured Raza that this committee will continue to work with SBMC to highlight Black members issues and give support where intersections exist.

Lilan Macer Scottish Secretary addressed the AGM and described her learning experience through a variety of roles on her journey to leading UNISON Scotland and emphasised her wish to ensure opportunities for women and learning in our union. She also expressed her continued support of our equality agenda as we move into the Year of the LGBT+ worker in 2024.

Kirsty Robson from the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust gave a moving presentation on the holocaust, and more recent genocides with a focus on those lost because of persecution of the LGBT+ community. The committee agreed that we should mark the day moving forward and were invigorated to build a strong work plan for the year ahead at our forthcoming policy forum.