

C11 Action for Rail

Motions 46 and amendment and 47

- Congress reaffirms its rejection of the flawed **McNulty Rail Value for Money** study published in May 2011.
- Congress also rejects the government's response to McNulty in its Command Paper published in March 2012 that has nothing positive to offer passengers or the industry's workforce.
- Congress is concerned that the means by which the government has chosen to implement its policy bypasses the democratic process because it denies elected Members of Parliament the opportunity to endorse or reject the most radical proposals for the industry in generations.
- These proposals include huge fare increases, more commercial freedom and longer contracts for private train operators, more fragmentation, the possible privatisation of infrastructure operator **Network Rail** and **the loss of over 20,000 railway jobs**.
- Congress reiterates its support for re-nationalisation of the railways. **Congress believes that there is a real alternative based on a publicly owned, reunified rail industry that is run in the public interest and not for private profit that has seen the industry haemorrhage billions of pounds since privatisation.**
- Congress notes that the next few years will have a significant impact on the future direction of the railway with 11 rail franchises due to be renewed before 2015 under the new, commercially favourable arrangements which will entrench the privatisation agenda for decades to come.
- Congress congratulates the constructive part played by the rail unions in building the sound (economic, environmental, political and social) case for this alternative and endorses the important contribution of the **Rebuilding Rail** report produced by Transport for Quality of Life to this debate.
- Congress particularly welcomes the ability to cut fares under the model proposed in Rebuilding Rail.
- Congress welcomes **Action for Rail**, the campaign for a better future for the UK's railway, and applauds the input and support from the TUC and Britain's rail transport unions ASLEF, RMT, TSSA and Unite.
- Congress acknowledges **Action for Rail** has had a number of successful weeks of action with events, public meetings and leafleting sessions across the UK that have raised public and media awareness of the campaign's alternative vision for the railway, integrated under public ownership.
- Congress also endorses the establishment of the **Action for Rail** website, a major campaigning interface of information, resources and interactive tools.
- Congress instructs the General Council to continue to work with the rail unions, the Labour Party other affiliates and communities in opposing cuts in the rail industry and making the positive case for the return to public ownership of the railways, including considering the options set out in **Rebuilding Rail**.

Congress calls on the General Council to:

- i) continue to support **Action for Rail** and promote the campaign among the wider trade union movement
- ii) encourage TUC regions to take a more active role in mobilising around specific franchises
- iii) broaden the campaign's support base nationally and regionally among passenger groups and other organisations
- iv) campaign against the EU rail liberalisation directives.

Mover: Transport Salaried Staffs' Association

Seconder: Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen

Supporter: National Union of Rail, Maritime and Transport Workers