

Role of a Branch Youth Officer

Please note that although the current Rule Book calls this a Branch Youth Officer the Region calls this role a Branch Young Members Officer. GMB defines young workers as members aged up to and including 30 years old.

Extract from the GMB Rule Book

Rule 38a Branch Youth Officer

- 1 The branch youth officer will be responsible for encouraging young people to join the union and promoting young people's issues into the branch's activities.
- 2 The branch youth officer must give one month's notice before they resign.

General role

As a Branch postholder you would be assisting the Branch to carry out their key role which is to:

- Recruit new members
- Represent members
- Communicate with members
- Organise
- Campaign
- Meet regularly
- Participate in GMB democracy
- Other issues a branch should hope to achieve:
- Train branch officers and activists
- Educate members
- Mentor members
- Show solidarity with other organisations
- Be active in the workplace and in the community
- Service members
- Retain members
- Generate income
- Support members

- Develop strategies
- Promote GMB
- Enhance and support Regional equality strategies and structures

Specific role

The Branch Young Members Officer is a Rule Book position, and will normally be a member of the Branch Committee which is elected by the Branch and serves for four years.

You should be active in your workplace and committed in ensuring that the aims and objectives of the Union are met and in line with GMB policy.

London Region has a self organised network called GMB London Young Workers. This is an active forum for all GMB members living or working in London and the East of England who are 30 years old or younger.

Their current chair is Joe Dharampal-Hornby and secretary is Matthew Boyd. They meet regularly to discuss campaigns organised by ourselves and supported by our regional office.

The network seeks to build active participation of young members in GMB and in our communities, whether that's in their local branch, trades council and/or in this regional young members forum. They also campaign on a range of issues decided by our members. They have regular socials and jointly hosted events with other campaign groups.

The purpose of the network is:

- to grow our union, deliver real positive change for GMB members and ensure that the voice of young workers' members is heard within GMB and the wider movement.
- To encourage, support and inspire young members by promoting the principles of GMB@Work, to be active in their workplace and to recruit new young members to the GMB.
- To organise and campaign for better rights and health and safety, pay and conditions for young people at work around workplace issues and on current and future campaigns around policies transferable to the workplace.
- To encourage young members to be active at branch and regional levels, providing support for new members to get involved. This includes getting active in sections and equality strands.
- To produce Young Workers' members specific communications, newsletters and materials.

- To organise events and training sessions to ensure GMB London Young Workers are a visible presence within GMB, including equality and recruitment events.
- To co-ordinate a clear digital presence that makes existing members-aware of our activities, how to get involved and for potential members see why they should join.
- To grow the number of young members who are involved in our London Young Workers' network.

As a Branch Young Members Officer, you could be expected:

1. To assist the Branch to communicate with young members and encourage them to be more active in GMB
2. To participate in GMB campaigning, organising and promotional activities as required on young member issues.
3. To support the aims and objectives of the GMB London Young Workers network, attend their meetings as a branch representative and prepare and report back to branch and committee meetings.
4. To attend the Regional Equality Conference if elected as a delegate.
5. To attend National Young Workers GMB events if elected as a delegate.
6. To attend GMB Congress if elected as a delegate.
7. To undergo training relevant with the role as and when requested.
8. To attend the TUC strand conference if elected as a delegate.

Useful Regional Contacts & Social Media Links

Regional Equality Officer Hilda Tavolara (hilda.tavolara@gmb.org.uk)

Twitter @gmbyounglondon

Email londonyoungworkers@gmbactivist.org.uk

 @GMBLondonRegion

Regional website: <https://www.gmblondon.org.uk/member-groups/young-london>