

Workers' Assemblies - Generic Model Motion

This conference commits to scoping a *Workers' Assembly* to empower workers with the time, space, expert evidence and specialist facilitation to produce democratic worker-led recommendations for feeding into national industrial decarbonisation strategies.

This would use the established processes from [Citizens' Assemblies](#) to accelerate progress towards a sustainable future for our industry that benefits workers.

Why is this important?

Industrial plans are often dictated by business leaders, who are incentivised by short-term profits rather than long-term investment, sector stability and sustainable employment. As with wages, terms & conditions, etc., we should evaluate their sustainability strategies critically, and develop and promote our own independent worker-led positions.

The government strategies for industry decarbonisation are often “technology neutral” and plot a variety of future industry scenarios without stating a particular preference for one technology or policy pathway over another. With upcoming elections and likely changes of government approaching, there will be an opportunity to develop these strategies further, and ensure focus and funding is directed effectively.

It's important that workers, who know our industries best, are extensively engaged in developing decarbonisation plans and ensuring resources are directed to optimal areas.

Within each sector, the challenges of decarbonisation and the wide range of potential policy and technological solutions are complex and hard to navigate. Workers should be given the time and space to evaluate these in an informed way. However, within the constraints of single page motions, and relatively short union branch and committee meetings, it's difficult to have the time to properly assess these and deliberate on positions.

Example: Deliberative “Future of Aviation” Workshop in Bristol

To show how this would work, [Involve](#) (a public participation charity) delivered a first-of-kind deliberative workshop in Bristol in 2023 on the future of sustainable aviation ([report](#), [video](#)).

This demonstrated that there's an appetite for this sort of deliberative process amongst workers, while highlighting the need for a deeper, more involved process. To do that would require a fuller, multi-day, Workers' Assembly commissioned by decision makers.

Who

The **Union X's Sector X** National Sector Conference to support the scoping of a Workers' Assembly for our sector with *Involve*, who facilitated the Bristol Aviation Workshop and [UK Climate Assembly](#). This could include participation from sector combines, other relevant sectors of our union, other related unions covering our sector, and would involve advocating for the government to make this process integral when developing new industrial strategies.

When

- To be agreed at the next National Sector Conference in **Month X 2024**.
- If agreed, a scoping process to be performed in **Month X 2025**.