

WHAT IS THE FUTURE OF AVIATION?

involve

Learn about the Bristol Workshop



WEBINAR
THURSDAY 14TH MARCH 2024



AGENDA

- Why “Workers’ Assemblies”?
- Presentation on Bristol Workshop - **Involve**
- Reflections
- Questions & Answers
- Next steps and how to get involved

Tata: Unite says steel jobs should be created not lost

17 December 2023



GETTY IMAGES

The UK government has promised Tata £500m to keep the Port Talbot site open and to decarbonise its operations there

By Gwyn Loader

Chief correspondent, Newyddion S4C

A union says it plans to both defend existing jobs and lobby for creating new ones at a steelworks at risk of thousands of redundancies.

Farming review announced as Senedd protest looms

27 February



PA MEDIA

Protesting farmers arrived outside Welsh Conservative conference on Friday

By Eiliw Gwawr

BBC Wales

An agricultural policy will be reviewed, the Welsh government has said, ahead of a protest at the Senedd.

Why involve workers?



- A major threat to job security is climate breakdown leading to a major economic crash and rapid, unplanned industry transitions. **Workers in high-carbon sectors are most at risk.**
- If these workers are given a voice, they can be agents of change and actively push for government policies to be implemented through ***“early design rather than late disaster”***.
- Workers’ are directly affected, understand their industry best and can dive deeper into industry-specific issues.
- Workers have the ability to negotiate and take industrial action within their industry.

What's the problem?



- Industrial plans are often dictated by business leaders who are incentivised by short-term profits and cost-cutting.
- Workers have a longer-term view and know their industries best, so should be engaged in developing sustainability plans.
- Within each sector, the challenges of decarbonisation and the wide range of potential policy and technological solutions are complex and hard to navigate.
- Within trade unions, the relatively short branch and committee meetings mean it's difficult to have the time and space to properly assess these options and deliberate on positions.



WORKERS' ASSEMBLIES

Why Workers' Assemblies?



- These would be based on *Citizens' Assembly* processes.
- The aim is to empower workers with the time, space, expert evidence and specialist facilitation to produce democratic worker-led recommendations for the future of their sector.
- It's critical that adequate time is allowed for workers to become informed about various options, hear from experts, ask questions and explore recommendations in depth with others.
- The recommendations produced could then be fed into existing democratic processes – within trade unions, or government policy-making, for elected representatives to consider.

Why Aviation?



Why Aviation?



- ✓ a high-profile industry and an interesting case-study
- ✓ it's high-carbon: still 99% reliant on fossil fuel
- ✓ there are mixed opinions about the best technology and policy options
- ✓ various policies recommended by the UK Climate Change Committee and UK Climate Assembly have been ignored
- ✓ is a relatively concentrated sector with a small number of large companies/unions

Bristol “Future of Aviation” Workshop

- The aim was to demonstrate, at a small scale, how a Workers’ Assembly could be done in practice.
- The Aerospace Museum in Filton, Bristol was selected due to high cluster of aerospace workers and students nearby.



**REFLECTIONS
&
NEXT STEPS**

Reflections



- ✓ Strong interest from aviation workers to consider sustainability issues and the future of their sector.
- ✓ Strong motivation for wider worker-involvement in the process of developing decarbonisation plans.
- ✓ Recognition that big, difficult decisions need to be made.
- ✓ Identification of key issues e.g. the growing demand for aviation and air traffic growth:
 - ability of tech and fuels to scale to meet this demand
 - whether the demand can be controlled equitably
 - the need to prioritise decarbonisation activities
 - the need to collaborate together across industry

Next Steps

- We want to collaborate with trade unions, government and industry institutions to deliver this at a larger scale.
- **Next:** a fuller, multi-day process commissioned by decision makers.
- Our group is actively talking to a number of aviation-related trade unions about scoping an **Aviation Workers' Assembly**, and also to other high-carbon sectors. **We need help to champion this idea!**

Get Involved

- **Aviation Workers:** join [Safe Landing](#), contact: info@safe-landing.org
- **Trade Unions:**
 - we have resources: [model motions](#) and packs for use.
 - we can join branch/committee meetings as a guest speakers
- **Industry Institutions:**
 - custodians of knowledge and longevity of sector.
 - well-placed to help scope assemblies and select speakers.
 - well-placed to help advocate for this at various levels.
- **Deliberative Democracy experts:**
 - talk to us about how to develop the process – research etc.
 - let us know about relevant opportunities/funding.

**QUESTIONS
&
ANSWERS**