



# New Branches Organiser

**Description:** The role of the New Branches Organiser is to support the emergence, growth and collective leadership of new LRU groups and their successful development into full LRU branches. This will include facilitating leadership from a broad base of renters, with a particular emphasis on working with those hardest hit by the housing crisis. We are currently supporting the growth of LRU groups in several boroughs including Tower Hamlets, Haringey and Brent.

## Main responsibilities

### Focusing on a particular group/branch

This organiser will be asked by the coordinating group to focus on one group for at least 15-20 hours each week and support it to develop into a full LRU branch by:

- Supporting the new group/branch to develop and implement strategic plans for its successful growth in membership and power, by organising evaluation and planning sessions and supporting the implementation of agreed plans.
- Identifying and supporting members to develop their skills and confidence to take on leadership roles.
- Identifying the individuals, groups and organisations across the borough the groups should work with and build strong relationships with them.
- Leading on the development and implementation of organising drives, including by leading regular door-knocking and street stall sessions.

### Supporting our network of local groups

Working with the union's coordinating group and new branches team to:

- Contribute to the development and evaluation of the LRU's growth strategy.
- Liaise with LRU members in different parts of London who are interested in setting up a new LRU group.
- Identify members and groups that are well placed to undertake sustained organising and support them to develop and implement initial outreach and group development plans, including by helping to organise meetings and workshops.
- Support the union's coordinating group and new branches team to develop the London Renters Union's strategy and processes for building the union in new parts of the city.

- Creating ways for members of existing branches to work with and share experience with members of LRU groups.

## Person specification

### Essential

- Substantial experience of supporting and coaching people to use organising tools to build power in a grassroots context.
- Excellent communication skills and the ability to build strong, deep relationships with a wide range of people and organisations.
- Ability to empower, inspire and motivate people to participate and take action, including people who face oppression.
- Good working knowledge of the housing crisis in London and its impacts.
- Ability to conduct honest and constructive working relationships and a commitment to operating with integrity.
- Self-motivation and direction and an ability to manage and prioritise multiple tasks and re-organise workloads to incorporate urgent deadlines and work responsibly in an unstructured environment.
- Passionate about the London Renters Union and building the power of private renters to win better housing conditions.
- Ability to set and keep boundaries and contribute towards a healthy organisational culture.

### Desirable

- Experience of identifying and developing leaders.
- Experience of supporting groups to make and implement strategic plans.
- Experience of developing and giving training.
- Some local connections in Brent, Haringey or Tower Hamlets

## Terms and conditions

- The pay is £28,420 per year. The post is 30 hours per week, usually spread over 4 days. LRU workers are expected to be available to work some evenings and weekends.
- Staff with children or carer responsibilities are entitled to a 12% subsidy on the regular staff salary for their first child or other dependent and a 6% additional subsidy for any additional children or dependents.
- This position is 2 year fixed term contract with intention to extend subject to funding
- There is a 6-month review period.
- Workers receive 28 days of paid holiday each year plus bank holidays and the week between Christmas and New Year. Sick pay is provided.

- The LRU provides its workers with up to £1,200 per year towards counselling or other forms of agreed wellbeing support.
- A phone and reasonable expenses are provided.
- Membership of the LRU is not open to landlords, police, bailiffs or others who carry out evictions.
- The LRU provides a 3% pension contribution.
- The post will be based at the LRU offices in Bethnal Green, but some working-from-home is possible, pending current COVID/lockdown requirements. Travel around London will be required.

## To apply for this job

- To apply for this role, please send your CV and cover letter explaining how you meet the criteria on the person specification above using the application form at <https://londonrentersunion.org/2021/work-with-us/>.
- Deadline for applications: 11am on January 3.
- Interviews will take place during the week starting January 31. Follow-up interviews may be requested the following week, if there are outstanding questions.
- If you have any questions about the role, feel free to email Michael on [coordinator@londonrentersunion.org](mailto:coordinator@londonrentersunion.org).