Motion to Support Trade Unionists 4 Calais Solidarity Visit

This union branch notes:

1. That the refugee people who are living in the camps in Calais and Dunkirk are only two hundred miles from two cities, London and Paris, that are the capitals of the 9th and 10th richest countries in the world (by GDP: IMF, Oct, 2015).

2. That approximately 6000 human beings - including babies and children - are living in camps where the conditions are extremely dangerous (see Doctors of the World report, September 2015) and where, if they were invited to inspect them, the United Nations would most likely judge them as not meeting basic human needs.

3. That refugees flee war, poverty and violence.

4. That there is an urgent need to compel our political representatives to offer these people a permanent solution and also a short-term place of shelter.

The Union Branch supports:

1. Organisations that condemn the conditions refugees are living in on the camps

2. The call from Stand Up To Racism to trade unionists to take action that can support the refugees in Calais and Dunkirk

3. Collecting goods that are needed for distribution on the camps and collecting money for local purchasing.

4. Solidarity visits to the camps so that trade union members can go back into their workplaces and take the message through the trade union movement that the people of the UK welcome refugees.

5. The call for our government, in conjunction with other governments and the European Union, to offer places to the people stuck in the camps in Northern France.

This Union Branch agrees:

1. To send _____ members on the trade union solidarity visit planned for 12th to 21st February 2015.

2. To pledge a donation of £_____ to support this trip and also donate £_____ for food and goods for the camp.

 3. To send collection forms to our union members to collect money that will be taken take to the camps and transparently donated.

4. To raise the issue of the urgent need for our government to act, wherever possible, within our union structure.