

# BT London Circular

## Now is the Spring of our discontent

Prospect's BT Conference takes place in early June (virtually) and representatives from across the UK's 4 nations and every part of BT will meet to discuss the issues facing members and what can be done on them.

It's clear from recent very well attended members meetings that no single issue exercises the minds of many but rather a range of concerns that often come down to a lack of respect and understanding from the Company about how hard people have worked over the pandemic year to keep things going.

- ⇒ *On 2021 Pay - Prospect is continuing to push BT at the highest level on the failure not only to give a pay rise but the wider lack of recognition of the year members have had.*
- ⇒ *On Better Workplace - while BT has yet to announce any plans for London, and Prospect will be fully consulted when these appear. It's clear from changes in various business units that the locations where people are currently doing important and valued work may not be available in future. That is unacceptable.*
- ⇒ *On Job Losses and Outsourcing - there is growing concern that constant reorganisations and frequent comings and goings distract from the ability of the Company to grapple with the external business challenges it has. That may impact on the success of BT and ultimately on the working lives of members who have had little say or influence on matters.*

**Watch out for a special issue of the London Newsletter giving details of key debates and decisions at the Prospect BT Conference.**

Latest revision of this document: [ht](#)

This revision: <https://library.prospect.org.uk/id/2021/00463/2021-05-13>

## Going back to the Office?

BT has announced plans to resume some wider office working from June 21<sup>st</sup>, if the Government decides to further ease pandemic restrictions at that point. Numbers will remain unclear until an official view on social distancing appears.

However, there are some wider issues which Prospect is keeping a close eye on. Firstly, some may well be glad to get back in the office for a range of reasons. Conversely others may well feel they have worked effectively from home and value the commuting time saved and stresses they no longer have.

Much of this may be covered by the still rather vague 'Smart working' concept. There also remains the matter of the appetite for people to return to central London locations which frequently involve a lot of travelling - this being the concern more than being in the office. Prospect will continue to monitor members views and is ready to raise things with BT where required.

## Mental Health Awareness Week 10-16 May

This year's Mental Health Awareness Week is more poignant than ever, as a result of the pandemic, workplace mental health has risen up the agenda.

When we surveyed remote workers, 35% told us their mental health had got worse as a result of the covid pandemic. We must address the dark side of remote working and ensure everyone has the support they need.

And whether employees work at home or in the workplace, employers must support those with poor mental health and take active steps to stop workers becoming mentally unwell in the first place.

You can also visit our [mental health hub](#) for guidance on managing your mental health at work, and to hear from Prospect workplace representatives on how they have been supporting members with their mental health.



**PROSPECT MEMBER CONTACT CENTRE**

**Call 0300 600 1878, Mon-Fri 08:30-18:00**

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