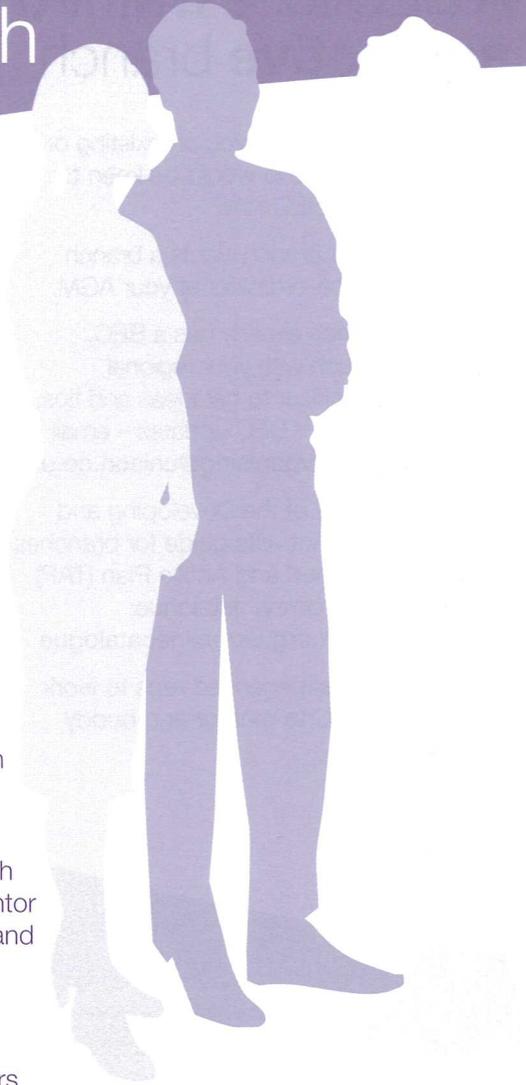


# A branch education co-ordinator in every branch

Supporting activists is more important now than ever and branch education co-ordinators (BECs) are crucial to ensuring activists are trained and confident to respond proactively to current challenges.

## **A BEC in your branch will:**

- Keep track of training needs of workplace reps and contacts, get new reps on appropriate training promptly, and ensure stewards gain the necessary Employment Rights Act (ERA) accreditation.
- Support new reps – make sure each new rep has a named contact, mentor or buddy to help them get started and ensure they have opportunities to practice their new skills.
- Promote Member Learning – Work with Lifelong Learning Co-Ordinators and keep the branch up to date on learning opportunities for members.
- Liaise with your organiser about flexible branch-based learning to help with particular issues.

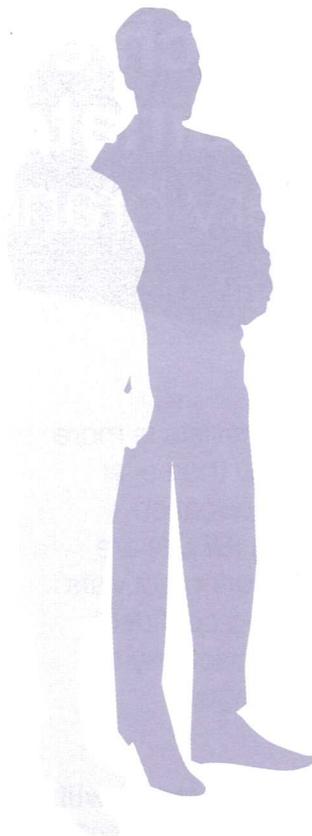


**UNISON**  
the public service union



## A BEC for a **trained and active** branch

- Talent spot – have you an existing or potential rep who would be keen to take on the BEC role?
- Ensure your branch elects a branch education co-ordinator at your AGM.
- If your branch already has a BEC, keep in touch with your regional education officer to get ideas and tips, and sign up for BEC updates – email: [learningandorganising@unison.co.uk](mailto:learningandorganising@unison.co.uk)
- Order copies of the Developing and Supporting Activists guide for branches and the Trained and Active Plan (TAP) form via the online catalogue: [www.unison.org.uk/onlinecatalogue](http://www.unison.org.uk/onlinecatalogue)
- Encourage experienced reps to work with the BEC to mentor and buddy new reps.



*“Since we set up a mentoring scheme where new contacts and reps shadow an experienced rep, we have increased the number of reps across all employers in our branch”*

For more information speak to your regional organiser.