



A new GMB Interpreters & Translators Branch

GMB can confirm that we are committed in setting up a standalone branch just for those working as Interpreters & Translators.

We see this as a massive step in getting you organised, campaigning on your issues and finally getting you recognised not only by the companies you provide your invaluable services to but also getting courts, and the government to finally agree to put your pay, terms and conditions at the forefront.

Your **GMB** Officer and **Branch Committee** members want to sit down and meaningfully be consulted with, about your concerns including your current pay, terms, and conditions.

Nominations

Before that though, I want to ask you to consider putting yourself forward to take up one of the voluntary roles available within your GMB Branch or to support a colleague by nominating them. The Branch Officer positions listed below are open for you to nominate either yourself (volunteer) or to nominate another member you think would be good for a role.

[If you are interested in either of the senior roles or any of the officer positions and want to know more, please send me an email, or give me a call.](#)

Please make your nominations as soon as possible and no later than Wednesday 30th April 2025. We are asking for you to email to martin.hall@gmb.org.uk a photo with a short résumé on why you should be considered for this position (max 250 words).

Any contested positions will be voted on by members at a separate meeting. If there are any positions that we do not receive nominations for in advance, we will take nominations from the floor at that meeting.

All Branch officers must be a member of the GMB Union and up to date with their contributions

***(Auditors can be other officers (except President and Secretary). Political Officers must be Labour Party members, and their elections is subject to approval by GMB London Regional Committee.**

All posts run for 4 years and once elected, the post holder needs to give a months' notice before they can resign

At the first Branch meeting we will be electing the following branch officer positions and here is a summary of the roles and responsibilities.

Branch roles & responsibilities

Branch President

- a) The Branch president will chair all branch meetings and make sure officials behave appropriately and keep to the rules.
- b) At all meetings they chair, the branch president will have a vote but not a casting vote.
- c) The branch president will sign the minutes, balance sheets and other documents, and will tell the secretary when to call special meetings of the committee.
- d) At each branch meeting, the branch president will inspect and read to the members all receipts for money the regional office have received.
- e) The branch president will report to the regional secretary any case where a branch official has failed to carry out their duties.

Branch Secretary

- a) The branch secretary will keep all the branch's, accounts and documents; deal with all correspondence and read it to the members of the branch; and take part in all branch and committee meetings and keep a record of them.
- b) They will give the region a quarterly sheet showing the branch's income and spending. If, under the circumstances, the branch secretary is not able to do this, they must make other arrangements with the regional secretary.
- c) The branch secretary will send the branch's financial report to the National Finance Department (in line with their timetable) and this should be signed by the auditors and the president
- d) The branch secretary and the president can call special branch meetings when necessary.
- e) The branch secretary will have the right to speak and vote on any business carried out at their branch

Branch Equality Officer

The Branch Equality Officer promotes equality and diversity and ensures that equal rights are high on the agenda within branch activities. They guide the branch and activists to be all inclusive taking into account the needs of members in all GMB equality groups including members with disabilities, those who identify as LGBT+ and women.

Branch Young Members Officer

The Branch Young Members Officer encourages young people (under 30) to join the union and promotes GMB young member issues into the branch's activities. You don't have to be under 30 to hold this position but you need to understand and promote young members issues.

Branch Race Officer

The branch race officer will be responsible for encouraging black and ethnic-minority people to join the union and promoting black and ethnic/minority issues into the branch's activities.

Branch Auditors (2 positions) *

The role of the branch auditor is to act on behalf of the branch's members to ensure transparency that all branch expenditure is underpinned by democratic decisions.

All branches should have AT LEAST one (1) auditor and branches with over 100 members must have two (2) auditors.

Branch auditors have access to Branch books and Branch accounts and examines and signs these off each Financial Quarter. Once signed off, this is then reported at the next Branch Meeting. A separate audit is carried out by chartered accountants in line with our Rule Book.

Branch Political Officer (maximum 3) *

The branch political officer will be responsible for campaigning, identifying, and promoting the branches political agenda to change/amend legislation and engage with the relevant politicians in line with GMB policies.

There is a regional network of Branch Political Officers, and you will work closely to help the branch and region with its Political Strategy and campaigns

Optional: - Branch Media Officer (website and comms management)

The branch media officer will be responsible for the upkeep of the website and liaise with the GMB regional media office on promoting the branch agenda.

Why would I want to be a GMB branch officer?

This is an exciting voluntary opportunity to gain experience and learn new things and develop your skills and experience in a new direction with training and support. If you are a good people person and enjoy helping others this could be exactly the opportunity you have been looking for.

Training and Support

GMB will provide full training and support to all branch officers. This is an exciting opportunity to develop your skills, represent colleagues, and help shape the branch and your union. It helps if you are also active in your workplace and committed in ensuring that the aims and objectives of the Union are met and in line with GMB policy.

It's your union – get involved!

After the pandemic and in the cost-of-living crisis, everyone can see how important it is to be in a union.

GMB will not stand by while members face less favourable terms and conditions, and we will keep challenging on your behalf.

Regards
Martin Hall

GMB Regional Organiser

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