Location Microsoft Teams Who's it for all PCS members

This year the National Black Members Committee (NBMC) will be holding three weekly lunchtime events and one evening live event on the PCS union Facebook page to celebrate Black History Month which runs from 1-31 October. More information can be found on BB.065.24.

In today's world, the stories we tell shape our understanding of the past, guide our present, and inform our future. For too long, the history of Black communities has been viewed through perspectives that distort, simplify, or completely ignore the depth of experiences lived by Black people. But 2024 signals a pivotal moment. Black History Month UK has revealed its theme: "Reclaiming Narratives".

This theme is not just about revisiting history; it is about taking ownership of the stories that define Black culture, Black members' contributions, and Black members' very own identity. It is a call to action for Black members across PCS regions and nations to step into the role of union advocates, reps and custodians of Black heritage. Black histories have always been narrated by others, leading to distorted portrayals that fail to capture the full breadth and depth of Black members' experiences within their workplaces and lives.

The NBMC is encouraging all Black members and allies to register for the four weekly events being organised starting on Thursday 10 October at lunchtime and ending on the evening of 31 October with a Facebook live event.

Registration is positively welcomed from all Black members and allies who are often under-represented at union events.

Please register <u>here</u> and please bring this briefing to the attention of members in your branch. Members can register for one or all sessions:

Week 1: Windrush Generation and the Safety for Rwanda Act 2024 on 10 October at 12.00 - 13.15

Week2: Celebrating Black Trade Unionist on 17 October at 12.00 - 13.15

Week 3: Advancing Black Careers in the Civil Service on 24 October at 12.00 - 13.15

Week 4: Resisting the Rise of the Far Right, Facebook live event on 31 October at 18.30 - 20.00

\*Please note, "Black" is used in the political context to apply to people who are African, African/Caribbean, Asian, Chinese, Arabic etc. i.e., people from, African and Asian diaspora, including people of dual heritage.

**Event Contact** 

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**Event Address** 

**Equality Department**