

Fujitsu Dispute: Appeal for Support

This appeal last updated: 7/3/2018



Defend the union

Unite members at IT Services giant Fujitsu need your support. Manchester members took 27 strike days in two previous disputes over the last 18 months. Members started action in the third dispute on 24 January, 17 strike days have been taken so far. 15 more have been announced: 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 29, 30, 31 March and 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 April. Check tiny.cc/fujitsudispute for the latest updates.

Fujitsu is trying to silence whistleblowers by dismissing some and by showing that it can make compulsory redundancies even when these are unjustified and in breach of its agreements, employees' contracts or the law.

Members are opposing victimisation of union reps who blew the whistle on unethical and possibly illegal company behaviour; opposing Compulsory Redundancies and demanding that Fujitsu honours its redundancy agreements.

Six Manchester members had been fighting their redundancy. Of the six, a majority were ethnic minority, a majority were disabled, two were union reps and one had complained of sex discrimination linked to her selection.

Fujitsu dismissed Ms Patel despite jobs being available in her department and her grievance not being heard. Fujitsu wrote telling Ian Allinson, chair of Unite @ Fujitsu in the UK, of his dismissal while he was on compassionate leave attending a family funeral. He was dismissed on 12 January despite having an outstanding internal job application.

Ian is in a tiny fake redundancy selection pool where the company cut 100% of the jobs. Ian worked at Fujitsu for 30 years and led union growth there since the early 1990s. Fujitsu stopped rep Lynne Hodge doing most of her job in May 2016 and told colleagues not to work with her. This is still not resolved despite company commitments to sort it out. Denis Morris was selected for redundancy on the basis of scoring that mainly focused on his rep role and disability, not his skills, knowledge etc.

As background Fujitsu Services Limited, the main UK company, remains profitable, and one director got £1.635m last year, up 13%. Fujitsu continues to cut large numbers of UK jobs through offshoring, automation and outsourcing.

We have always given and received great solidarity. We are asking for your support now.

Fujits-who?

Fujitsu is a giant Japanese multinational. The main UK subsidiary Fujitsu Services Limited (formerly ICL), with around 8,000 UK employees.

Fujitsu provides IT services (mainly outsourcing) to many government departments and major companies.

How To Help

Check tiny.cc/fujitsudispute for the latest information and materials and lots of ways to help including:

- ✓ Protest to Duncan.tait@uk.fujitsu.com with a copy to support@ourunion.org.uk or Unite the Union, Fujitsu MAN34, Central Park, Northampton Road, Manchester, M40 5BP.
- ✓ Protest with strikers at Fujitsu M40 5BP, from 7am to 10am on weekday strike days.
- ✓ Sign the "Reinstate Ian Allinson" statement <http://tiny.cc/reinstaeian> and ask others (your MP?) to sign.
- ✓ Invite a speaker to your meeting.
- ✓ Donations payable to "Manchester IT Workers Group" can be sent c/o John Wood, 50 Brooklyn Street, Crewe, CW2 7JF. Or transfer online to Account: 00980539, Sort Code: 30-91-48 and email support@ourunion.org.uk with details.
- ✓ Follow and promote the campaign on social media using #FujitsuFightback:

 @unitefujitsu  /uniteatfujitsu