

There are many good reasons for joining a union **but one that is often overlooked** is the lobbying of Parliament.

UCU lobbies Members of Parliament in a number of ways

The Political Team, based on Carlow Street and on behalf of members, coordinates the day to day lobbying of ministers, shadow ministers, select committees and backbenchers. This often takes the form of attending meetings, providing briefings, asking for their support on parliamentary motions and asking MPs to table parliamentary questions.

When there are big issues the union has to tackle, we seek support from members.

On many occasions we ask members to contact their own Members of Parliament. MPs care what their constituents think - they are the ones who go to the ballot box at election time - so when hundreds of constituents contact them about a



"Pensions like ours are unsustainable for everyone else"

single issue, they take notice.

We also use physical lobbies of parliament to speak to MPs. Members from across the country make the trip to Westminster to speak to their MPs directly. This takes a lot of time, planning and coordination but can be a very effective tool if there is a high turnout. When there is a local dispute, we also help members to set up meetings with local MPs in their constituencies - face to face is always better than sending an email.

Do not leave it to others to defend *YOUR* conditions join the UCU at:

www.ucu.org.uk

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- **UCU subscriptions pay for full time officials.**
 - **The more full time officials the more effective the UCU will be at lobbying Parliament.**
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More members: More Subscriptions: More F/T officials: Better representation