Scottish Union Learning Conference 2026

Uniting Workplaces Through Learning

Date: Tuesday, 17 November 2026
Venue: Trades Hall of Glasgow,
85 Glassford St,
Glasgow, G1 1UH

Agenda

9:00am **Registration**

9:25am **Welcome & Introduction**
Susan Quinn, Chair, Scottish Union Learning Board

9:30am **Conference Address**
Tom Arthur MSP, Minister for Business and Fair Work

9:45am **Conference Address**
Roz Foyer, STUC General Secretary

10:00am **Welcome to the Glasgow Trades Hall**
Glasgow Trades Hall

10:10am **Workshops (Round 1)**

Workshop A	Security and Fulfilment: Accessing opportunities beyond the Learning Fund
Workshop B	Respect and Opportunity: Tackling Harmful Narratives
Workshop C	Effective Voice: Utilising the Fair Work Toolkit: From Theory to Practice

12:00pm **Lunch**

12:55pm Workshops (Round 2)

Workshop A Security and Fulfilment:
Accessing opportunities beyond the Learning Fund

Workshop B Respect and Opportunity:
Tackling Harmful Narratives

Workshop C Effective Voice:
Utilising the Fair Work Toolkit: From Theory to Practice

2:45pm Break

3:00pm Conference Address
My learning journey
Frances Crawford: A Bad, Bad Place

3:20pm Conference Address
Linda Somerville, STUC Deputy General Secretary

3:35pm Closing Remarks
Tommy Breslin, Scottish Union Learning Director, STUC

3:40pm Close

Workshop information

All attendees will have the option of attending two out of three workshops. Workshops will be booked in advance at the point of registration.

Each session will be introduced by a Development Fund union.

Workshop A: **Security and Fulfilment**
Accessing opportunities beyond the Learning Fund
Facilitators: Scottish Union Learning, Scottish Community Development Centre, Scottish Funding Council, Social Enterprise Academy, and The Open University.
Introduction: Round 1 – Linda Fraser, Bectu Vision
Round 2 – Kerry McCrone, FBU

This panel session and workshop will explore learning and development opportunities that can be accessed without recourse to the Learning Fund.

Workshop B: **Respect and Opportunity**
Tackling Harmful Narratives
Facilitators: Show Racism the Red Card
Introduction: Round 1 – Chris Higgins, PFA Scotland
Round 2 – Mary Jane Herbison, RMT

Show Racism the Red Card will facilitate an interactive workshop which will look at where misinformation comes from, the negative impact of racism and discrimination and how, within a union-led learning context, discrimination can be tackled.

Workshop C: **Effective Voice**
Utilising the Fair Work Toolkit: From Theory to Practice

Facilitators: Denise Christie, STUC Fair Work Officer
Lisa Wright, Senior Research Officer, Fair Work Convention Secretariat

Introduction: Round 1 – Gail Bell, PCS
Round 2 – Hailey Dawson & Emily Nicholl, Scottish Artists Union

The session will introduce participants to the Fair Work Convention's FWC Workers Survey Tool and explore how it can be used to strengthen workers' effective voice in the workplace.

Through practical examples and interactive discussion, the workshop will support union reps and learners to understand the Fair Work Framework, use the survey to gather evidence of workers' experiences, and identify how findings can inform workplace dialogue, organising priorities, meaningful engagement with employers and action to improve fair work.

To register:
https://scottishunionlearning.zohobackstage.eu/ScottishUnionLearningConference2026

Photography notification:
A reminder that photographs will be taken during the event; if you do not wish to be captured in these images, please speak to a member of SUL staff who will assist you with this.

Tag the conference on social media using #SUL26

www.linkedin.com/company/scottish-union-learning

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