

## Tyne and Wear Metro strikes off after Unite secures improved offer

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Strikes by more than 50 Tyne and Wear Metro engineers employed by Stadler Rail Service Ltd have been called off after the workers accepted an improved pay offer, Unite, the UK's leading union announced on Monday.

The deal includes a much-improved offer for pay and allowances, which will be backdated to January, a £1,000 one-off payment and boosts to overtime rates and health benefits.

Unite general secretary Sharon Graham said: "By standing together in their union, these workers secured an improved pay offer from Stadler. This result is further evidence that Unite's total commitment to improving our members' jobs, pay and conditions is working."

Strikes scheduled to last from 14 November to 28 November will no longer go ahead on the UK's busiest light rail system outside of London.

Unite regional coordinating officer Suzanne Reid said: "This deal is another reminder that workers looking to increase their wages and make improvements to their working lives should join Unite."