



[prospect.org.uk/join](https://prospect.org.uk/join)



# Union news

Newsletter for DVSA Prospect members

June 2025

## Newsletter contact

Communications Officer

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Prospect Membership team

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0300 600 1878

## Recruit a member

The more members we have — the stronger our voice. Ask your colleagues to join us at

[www.Prospect.org.uk/join](https://www.Prospect.org.uk/join) or

call 0300 600 1878 for more details

We also welcome new reps so please reach out to the section if you're interested

**You are the union, We are your voice!**

## Need advice or representation?

If you need advice or representation at work, you can contact any section rep.

We do have areas aligned for ease of access, however if you feel more comfortable you can contact any of the prospect section representatives who will be happy to help

Rep details below or on the following link- [Prospect union representatives and committee members](#)

## Charity for Civil Servants - Join a 30-minute talk about what they do and how you can get involved.

Our 30 minute online presentations (followed by a 15 minute Q&A) explore our wide-ranging support services. You'll be surprised by just how many services we provide including:

- Financial assistance (grants) and money advice
- Burnout and Wellbeing at Work
- Paid-for partner services e.g. Grief Works, Anxiety UK, Relate, Law Express
- Specialist dementia support
- Carer's digital resources and emergency planning
- Mental health support

All sessions are delivered by Microsoft Teams. To register simply choose a date and click on the register now link. If there isn't a date that works for you, don't worry, we regularly add more dates so keep coming back.

To register for a talk please use the following link- [Introduction talks | Charity for Civil Servants](#)

## ATF Health & Safety

DVSA recently emphasised the need for all VT staff attending ATF testing site events to fully utilise the ATF HS & Site Issues app to record HS concerns.

This will then give the organisation an accurate record of sites which are lacking in their attention to their HS obligations. This can then be used to underline and support DVSA when insisting the ATFs improve and rectify their H&S standards.

An example if you arrive and the test lane has oil or grease patches creating a slip/fall risk, you advise you cannot begin testing until they are cleaned up, the ATF should do this immediately.

DVSA still wish this noted on the app to record that pattern of not preparing the test lane to a safe standard.

Certainly, some of our ATFs do lack that attention to good H&S practices, so if you are concerned about any H&S risk at a site you are testing at please support this refocus and emphasis on improving safety for our staff by using the app.

Everybody has the right to work in a safe environment, let's support each other by reporting, if one of us chooses to overlook it has a negative knock on effect for us all. If anyone feels unsupported when reporting please speak to your local Prospect rep who will be able to help."

## What being a rep means to me

**Leanne Clancy- Assistant Section Secretary**

I started in the agency as a tester then moving on to the role of a TE before returning to testing and then into my current role of VE in Earned Recognition.

In my role as a TE, I was subjected to a lengthy period of bullying from a manager who no longer works for the business. I was young, vulnerable with no help, support or guidance from people and organisations who should have been there for me. I was really fortunate to have managers from another area and another directorate that stepped in to remove me from that situation and support me to build myself back up after being broken from the bullying.

After this I met a fellow rep who told me about Prospect, and I joined straight away. Months later I became a representative (rep). I knew I needed to be that person to help and support others, regardless of the situation, so no one will ever go through what I did.

As a rep of Prospect, I was fortunate to take a leading role in the building respect working group and share my stories and give my opinions on ensuring this kind of behaviours are eliminated from DVSA.

This is just a small part of the work we do as a section, and I do as a rep. I am H&S trained so carry out inspections of sites where DVSA staff work to ensure compliance, attend various meetings from discussions of the clothing/PPE available to staff to changes in contracts/working patterns the list is endless.

I know everyone has their own reasons for joining a union (or not) and I respect that. I am proud to say I am a Prospect union rep and even prouder of the work we do to help and support members and the working relationship we have with DVSA.

## The Annual Delegates Meeting is on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> of October 2025-

St. Herbert's Parish Centre, 148 Broadway, Chadderton, Oldham OL9 0JY.

(Sign in and welcome from 09:30, for a 10:00 start)

The ADM is an extremely important meeting as this is where:

- The election of the Section Committee for the next year takes place (apart from group representatives, who are elected ahead of the meeting) and
- The Section Committee receives direction from delegates on the handling of business for the year ahead.

There is also time during the day for the current Section Committee to report on the past year's activities and for our guest speakers to address the meeting followed by Q&A sessions.

Before and at the ADM you can-

- Express an interest in attending the ADM as a delegate for your Union area
- Express an interest in becoming the group representative for the geographical area in which you are located.
- Express an interest in becoming an officer of the Section Committee.
- Submit motions to the meeting to debate.

All nomination and motion forms need to be sent to Leanne Clancy, Assistant Section Secretary, arriving no later than **mid-day Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2025**

Please contact a section rep for more details and to obtain the motion and nomination forms

