

London Freelance Branch **Annual General Meeting 2026**

Membership Secretary's report

In 2025, NUJ LFB welcomed a total of 267 new members across various membership categories, as follows:

Student: 153

Full Member: 62

Temporary Freelance Member: 25

Life Member: 18

Refugee: 5

Asylum Seeker: 4

This brings the total number of members in the Branch to 2,944, reflecting the continued growth and diversification of the branch.

This year was marked by significant efforts to support and integrate new members, fostering a stronger and more informed community within LFB.

We held our regular three-monthly membership meetings, which were led by veteran NUJ member and former Membership Secretary Phil Sutcliffe. Drawing on his extensive experience and deep knowledge as a former Membership secretary, Phil managed and guided the quarterly welcome meetings.

These meetings provided a platform to address updates and challenges faced by new members, explore their motivations for joining the union, and guide them on how to make the most of LFB programmes. Discussions also included practical advice on setting fair freelance rates to ensure adequate compensation. Overall, the sessions offered valuable insights into how members could maximise the benefits of their membership, particularly through LFB training opportunities.

Shaimaa Elhadidy