

WELCOME TO YOUR FOURTH

Branch NJC Newsletter

we're so glad you're here!

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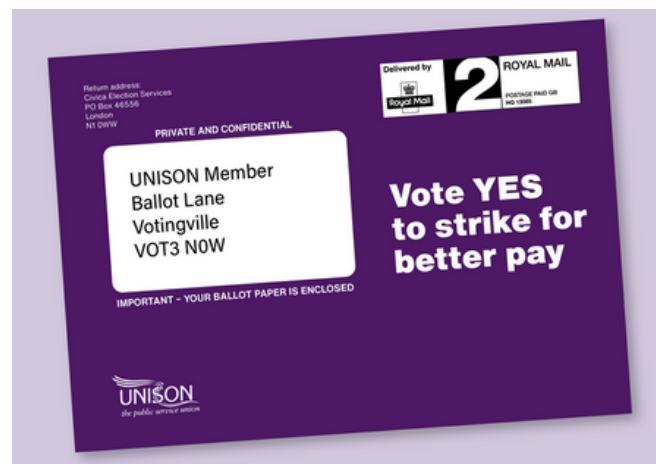
Unison members are balloting for more pay

Unison members across the Council and Schools, will have an opportunity to increase the employers pay offer, made before the general election. We asked the employers for a pay increase of £3,000 or 10%, whichever was greater. The offer of £1,290 falls far short of this.

We consulted members on this offer, and following the strong 80% reject vote we received, our NJC committee decided that we would proceed with an industrial action ballot. Voting for, and taking, industrial action will send a clear message to employers that you need a better pay rise.

The Ballot

The Ballot opens on September 4th and will end on October 16th. You will receive by post, a Purple envelope like this. Please complete and return, we need to know if you want to Reject OR Accept the offer. It's your chance to have your view counted



The claim was lodged when RPI was 13%, so this offer represents a significant decrease based on that percentage. On top of this, there is no increase in funding to Councils and Schools. Meaning that any increase is further eroding on Local Authorities ability to deliver essential services. It's not only your pay at risk, its could also be your job, even more essential, whatever your decision, you return your vote.

Your Vote Counts only if you return your ballot

A Cost of Living Crisis

- Rapid inflation pushed up prices faster than wages
- The impact of this is permanent, even while inflation falls.
- The cost of food , travel, rent and mortgages all overtook NJC pay in 2023-2034



- The cost of living has risen by almost 60% since 2010 while NJC pay has risen by less than half
- The TUC has warned of a 'Debt time bomb' in 2024
- 1 in 5 UK households have less than £100 spare each month

Political Ballot Results

Unison recently conducted an electronic ballot on its ability to lobby and campaign on issues which affect its members. This is something that the union has to do, every 10 years. Unison has 2 funds, Labour Link and the General Political Fund (GPF) This allows the union to give money to all sorts of local campaign, such as anti-cuts campaigns against Local Government and NHS closures. It is vital that this support continues and Unison is able to carry on helping local campaigns. The ballot ended on August 16, the results are that a huge 97% agreed the continuation of both funds. More info on the National site.

What is a disaggregated ballot?

Historically Unison has balloted members on an aggregated basis. This has meant that to take action, 50% of those balloted were required to vote. This was on a National threshold and not by individual employer. This allowed some degree of influence from regions which either were more accepting, or rejecting, on the result, and occasionally added great frustration in regions which voted to reject due to localised issues.

The opportunity of a disaggregated ballot, will allow any trade union member in a single employer, such as Cambridgeshire County Council, to take action. The only criteria is that the members being balloted, vote in numbers greater than 50% of our CCC membership. This is why it is important to return your completed ballot paper.

Visit the Branches re-launched website and sign up for updates.

<https://www.unisoncambridgeshire.org.uk>