COUNCIL AND SCHOOL WORKERS

Enough is enough



Vote yes!

for action on pay

79% of UNISON members in Local Government and Schools voted to reject the final pay offer of 1.75% (2.75% for the lowest grade). With inflation hitting 4%, fuel bills rocketing, and National Insurance set to rise in April, we can't afford another real pay cut.

NOW UNISON MEMBERS ARE BEING BALLOTED FOR INDUSTRIAL ACTION.

What do you need to do?

You will receive an important letter and your ballot paper in the post from 1 December. Completed ballot papers must be returned by 14 January.

We are asking members to 'Vote yes!' for action on pay.

If you don't receive a ballot paper by 9 December you can get a replacement by logging into 'My Unison' at https://www.unison.org.uk/my-unison or call the hotline on 0800 0 857 857.

UNISON
Tower Hamlets

Why should I vote for strike action?

For years Council and School workers have suffered cuts in our real pay.

The austerity years saw the value of our pay drop by 25%.

Yet the Covid pandemic has emphasised just how important the work we do in supporting our communities is. The Tory government talks of a high skill, high pay economy. But they want to impose further real pay cuts for Public Sector workers, just as inflation is taking off.

UNISON has called on Local Authorities to work with us, to call for the funding we need for decent pay and to protect services. But they have refused, offering just a 1.75% pay rise (2.75% for Scale 1/A). This might sound better than nothing – but with inflation nearing 4%, it's another real terms pay cut.

Unless we say 'enough!', pay will fall further, and those holding the purse strings will get away with it. It's time to take action.

What can I expect?

We only ask members to strike as a last resort. We're using every means possible to make the employers improve their offer through negotiation. But if they don't, we need to stand firm together. We would start with an initial day of action.

If necessary, we might need further strike days. For now, we just need to know that you would be willing to strike.

You will not be alone. 375,000 people working in councils and schools throughout the UK will be voting too. And you will have the backing of the UK's largest union – that's 1.3 million people on your side. UNISON will be with you every step of the way.

Key dates:

1 December:
Ballot papers issued to your home address.



9 December:
You can request a replacement ballot paper at www.unison.org.uk/my-unison or call 0800 0 857 857.

10 January:
Last opportunity to request a replacement ballot.

14 January:
Completed ballot papers must be returned.

We will announce the results and next steps soon afterwards.

This is your decision on your pay. Use your vote. And vote yes for strike action.

Ask your colleagues to join us at join.unison.org.uk

For more information go to: www.unison.org.uk/our-campaigns/fair-pay-now-council-school-workers/

UNISON Tower Hamlets

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