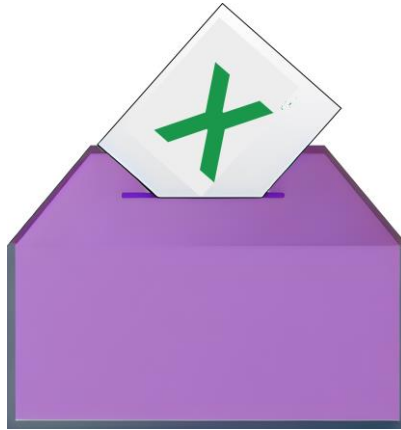


Public Sector Workers Getting a Pay Rise?



Whatever the respective members – junior doctors, nurses, teachers, police, and prison staff think about the pay rises they're being offered, they are receiving pay rises stated to be above inflation.... but then most of those groups took strike action for their pay and so the Government is responding to those who raise their voices.

If local government workers are to receive a pay rise, we need to use our ballot. Not voting or voting to accept our pay rise in the National Pay ballot tells the government we're just not that bothered....

.... So when the time comes (4th September) vote and vote YES!

National Pay Strike Ballot: What is UNISON doing?



“ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!”



2008—40p 2024—£1.40

The price of a tin of beans has gone up by 250% but our pay has fallen in value by 27% over the same period!

- The UK is the sixth largest economy in the world.
- We are in the worst cost of living crisis in 77 years
- The number of UK billionaires has gone up by 20% since pandemic.

Schools & Council workers are working one day a week for FREE

Barnet UNISON members will join **360,000 UNISON** members across England and Wales, in a National Pay Strike ballot which opens on **4 September** and closes on **16 October**.

UNISON advice to all 360,000 members is to **VOTE YES** for strike action

When can I vote?

Ballot papers will be sent **directly to UNISON members' home addresses**. It is important that **ALL Barnet UNISON** members put a cross in the box and post the ballot back in the envelope provided.

For a successful strike ballot, a trade union must ensure that at least **50%** of members have voted.

We know from other trade unions that it is important to contact all our members personally to try and get over the **50%** target.

To this end Barnet UNISON will begin work to speak to every one of our members who are being balloted.

- We will be organising meetings in workplaces, schools, children centres, depots, Colindale both in-person and online.
- On **Monday 2 September 6.30 pm** we are holding an online National Pay meeting to explain about the strike ballot and to take questions.
- We are organising a telephone banking team to try and speak to every member. If you have a message left on your **voicemail from Barnet UNISON**, please respond back in order we can check you off as having voted. If you receive a **text message** from UNISON, please respond so we can register you as having voted.
- We will also be sending emails to members asking if they have voted. If you have voted please reply to confirm, if you have not voted or you do not have a ballot paper, please let us know as we can help to have another ballot paper sent out to you.

How much are they offering?

To understand why UNISON is recommending all 360,000 members to **VOTE YES** for strike action UNISON has produced a helpful online tool which provides each member with clear information that this is another **PAY CUT** during the worst cost of living crisis in **77 years**.

Before you use the online calculator, you will need to know your annual salary. If you don't know what you earn, please speak to your line manager.

You can access the link using the QR Code (create QR code for this link but keep link in flyer <https://unisonpaycalculator.co.uk/>)

The online calculator provides four bits of financial information.

To help explain how it works we are using an example of a **Barnet Council Grade D** worker (working full time) and on the bottom of the grade.

1. This worker currently earns **£28,272**.
2. Using the UNISON National Pay Calculator this worker will with the **current offer** will move up to **£29,763**
3. UNISON's claim was for **£3,000 or 10%**, whichever was greater.
4. The online calculator shows UNISON's Pay claim would mean another **£1,710** for this Grade D worker taking their pay to **£31,474**.
5. Had this Grade D worker's salary kept up with inflation since 2010, they'd be receiving **£35,340**.
6. UNISON view is being **£1,710** worse off is not a pay rise which is why all UNISON members are being advised to VOTE **YES** for strike action.

Is there enough money?

- The answer is **YES**.
 - The UK is the **sixth** largest economy in the world.
 - We are in the worst cost of living crisis in **77** years
 - The number of UK billionaires has gone up by **20%** since pandemic.
 - MPs will get a pay rise from **£86, 584 to £91,346** alongside expenses and subsidised meals.
-
- 177 billionaires in the UK increased their wealth by **£150 billion** between 2020-22 (directly benefiting from the pandemic!). Billionaire Britain – Equality Trust.
 - Oxfam's analysis found that the **richest 1%** of Britons hold more wealth than **70 per cent of Britons**, while the four richest Britons have more wealth than 20 million Britons.
 - Shell continues to reap the rewards of soaring energy prices, reporting astounding profits of **£5.8 billion** in Q4 2023 bringing the year's grand total to **£22 billion**
 - New figures released by the Trussell Trust have also revealed that more **than 3.1 million emergency food parcels** were provided to people facing hardship between April 2023 and March 2024.
 - England's water firms made **£1.7bn in pre-tax profits**. This is up 82% since 2018-19, when the same companies made £955m
 - **Food shopping prices are still rising.**
 - **Rent and/or mortgage payments are still rising.**

The Government chooses who they give the money to ... and it's not to public sector workers. The value of public sector pay has fallen by almost **27%** which is why we are in this serious cost of living crisis.

Barnet UNISON National Pay Branch Meeting

Guest speaker to be confirmed.
Time: Sep 2, 2024 06:30 PM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89793821118?pwd=1seHNylaYQM2RkFLqfOgBsEdaF4yVA.1>

Meeting ID: 897 9382 1118
Passcode: 612381

Political fund ballot – saving UNISON’s campaign voice

UNISON’s 10-year ballot is now underway – it opened on 15 July and closes on 16 August



Ballot papers are now dropping through members’ letter boxes asking them to vote on the continuation of the union’s **political fund**.

It is vitally important that they vote yes – and that the Labour Link and campaign fund continue to provide a platform for political campaigns in support of our members.

It is a ballot we must win – by making the case once again to our members, showing them what the two distinct sections of UNISON’s fund, Labour Link and the campaign fund, do – and what they have helped us to achieve. Each month, our members pay pennies into the political fund, but collectively that adds up to millions each year. This money funds vital political campaign work on our members behalf. This is necessary to compliment the work we do in negotiations, in workplaces and through legal channels.

[Click here to read further](#)

Sad News from Southport and Appeal for Unity

Solidarity appeal for healthcare assistants on strike this summer
Healthcare assistants are calling for solidarity donations to support their strike



Healthcare assistants (HCAs) at five hospitals across Leicester and Northamptonshire will be on strike throughout August, escalating a dispute over back pay that has already led to 19 days of strike action.

The employer refuses to negotiate, focusing instead on breaking the strike, including threatening leaders with disciplinary action.

Despite these tactics, UNISON members remain steadfast in their fight for fair back pay, seeking recognition for years of being overlooked and performing tasks beyond their grade.



The three local branches involved have been fundraising to alleviate the financial hardships experienced by low-paid workers on strike. However, funds are now depleted so UNISON is urgently asking for solidarity and support.

Please consider making a branch donation to the hardship fund.

Without union financial support, UNISON members and their families will struggle to stay out for the entire summer.

How to donate

Unity Trust

UNISON East Midlands Regional Fund

Account Number: 49021040

Sort code: 608301

Reference: HCA Hardship Fund

Cheques can be made payable to 'UNISON East Midlands' and sent to: UNISON East Midlands, Vivian Avenue, Nottingham, NG5 2AF

For more information, contact Leicestershire Health branch secretary David Liner on leicestershirehealth@unison.co.uk



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