

Council pay offer consultation

UNISON, GMB and Unite received a letter from the local government employers on 5 December 2017 outlining a proposed two-year pay deal for the period April 2018 – March 2020 for council and school support staff in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

The offer would mean a 2% wage rise in April for the majority of council and school support staff currently earning more than £19,430, and a further 2% in April 2019.

The local government employers are also proposing to give lower paid staff a higher wage rise – of up to 16% over the two years.

The proposals also include a revamp of National Joint Council pay scales.

UNISON head of local government Heather Wakefield said, "Council and school support staff are the lowest paid workers across our public services and are long overdue a wage rise above the 1% cap. The government must now come up with the cash to fund local government properly so councils have the money to give their staff a wage increase that doesn't put more services or jobs at risk."

Details of how this offer will affect your pay can be found at our website http://www.unionsouthamptondistrict.org.uk/pay_offer_how_it_affects_you.

Any offer will be put to members via a consultative ballot which should start late January 2018.

Branch Annual General Meeting Monday 12 March 2018

12.30 to 1.30pm

Conference Rooms 3 / 4, Civic Centre

**You're
invited**

- Sandwiches will be available from 12 noon
- A free prize raffle will be held with a total of £250 prize money

Free Will Service

UNISON members can have a will drawn up free of charge by Thompsons Solicitors. This service is based upon the completion of a simple questionnaire which is then sent to Thompsons Solicitors who will draw up the will on your behalf. Contact the Branch office on 023 8083 2740, e-mail branchsecretary@unionsouthampton.org.uk or find it online at <http://www.unionsouthamptondistrict.org.uk>.

Recruit a new member and get a £25 reward

For every new member recruited, you will get a £25 reward. Application forms and further information are available from the Branch office. New members need to have paid their first subscription before any advice can be given but, in any case, cannot be advised on pre-existing issues.

2018 Training Courses

For Stewards

25-26 January, ERA (Employment Relations Act 1999)
Refresher Training, Southampton

10-12 January Organising Stewards: Part 1,
23-25 April Southampton City College

8-9 March Organising Stewards: Part 2,
14-15 June Southampton City College

15-16 February, Developing Representation Skills,
Southampton City College

9-11 July, Negotiating Skills, Southampton City College

16-18 July, Organising around Employment Law,
Southampton City College

26-27 July, Further Representation Skills, Guildford

For Health and Safety representatives

21-25 May, Health and Safety rep, Southampton

For members and activists

11-12 June, Equality in your Branch, Guildford

5-6 July, Breaking the Silence on Domestic Violence,
Guildford

8-9 October, Dealing with Bullying and Harassment,
Guildford

For Women

20 & 21 February, Sex Discrimination in the Workplace,
Guildford

17-18 July, Pregnancy and Maternity, Guildford

23-25 March, Women's History Part 1, Eastbourne

5-6 July, Breaking the Silence on Domestic Violence,
Guildford

Demand driven courses:

Domestic Abuse & Violence Against Women (women only)

Introduction to Equal Pay (women only)

Women, Work and Health

If you would like to attend any of the above courses, please
contact the Branch office on 023 8083 2740 for an
application form.

2018 National Young Members' Weekend

11 – 13 May 2018, Jury's Inn, Milton Keynes

UNISON's young members' weekend brings together more
than 100 young members from across the UK to find out
more about the Union and, more importantly, how they
can play a part in the Union's campaigning to defend public
services. Contact the branch office if you wish to attend.

If you are 26, or younger, and interested in attending
please contact the Branch office.

Mental Health First Aid Training

27 & 28 March 2018

Room TS211, Spark Building, Southampton Solent University

Following the results of the branch Mental Health Survey,
UNISON will be running a Mental Health First Aiders
Course.

This follows an increasing number of people experiencing
mental health issues, especially in relation to work
pressures.

This course is aimed at helping stewards and members
better understand mental health and how they can help
colleagues in the workplace who may be experiencing
difficulties. This training will be practical and delivered in a
supportive environment by Sally Denley who works in
Public Health and has over 25 years of experience within
the field of Mental Health.

Priority will be given to Stewards, however we will also
consider applications from members who wish to attend
the training.

Please contact the branch office for an application form.



Winter fuel allowance

Worried about paying your winter fuel bill? Get help
staying warm this winter. With rising fuel costs and
another cold winter many members are worried about how
they're going to pay this year's winter fuel bills.

Help is on hand—"There for You" has set up a limited fund
to help UNISON members on low income by way of a one-
off payment of up to £50.

To apply:

- Download the application form at
[https://www.unison.org.uk/
content/uploads/2017/11/WFG-
2017-18-form-and-survey.pdf](https://www.unison.org.uk/content/uploads/2017/11/WFG-2017-18-form-and-survey.pdf)
and complete and return with
the paperwork requested.



or to request a form

- Please contact the Branch office on 023 8083 2740 or
- Ring UNISON Direct 0800 0857 857.

Future of Work

Automation, Gendered Labour, Crisis in Care, Precarity

6.30pm to 9pm, Wednesday 7 March 2018, Palmerston Lecture Theatre, Solent University

Free for 27 and under, £5 for 28+ (+booking fee, all proceeds cover costs)

UNISON Southampton District are hosting an event to discuss the Future of Work. With changes in technology, an aging population, a diminishing welfare state and blurred lines of self-employment, we are entering what some are calling the second industrial revolution. But what does this mean for you? And how can Trade Unions organise to ensure we are on a path to utopia and not dystopia?

Tickets can be reserved at www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/future-of-work-tickets-41074704547. For more information head to
[Facebook.com/Sotonunison](https://www.facebook.com/Sotonunison).

UNISON 2018 Annual General Meeting—12 March 2018

Election of Branch Officers 2018

The Annual General Meeting of the Southampton District Branch of UNISON is being held on Monday 12 March at 12.30pm in Conference Rooms 3 / 4, Civic Centre. The meeting will confirm the election of Branch Officers, Stewards and Health and Safety representatives for the next twelve months. The following are the nominations for Branch Officers being put forward by the current Branch Committee which were ratified at December's Branch Committee meeting on 12 December.

Nominations for any post can be put forward on the form below by 9.00am on Friday 9 February. If you would like more information about what is involved in any of the Branch Officer roles, contact the UNISON office for an informal discussion.

Branch Committee Nominations

Post	Name	Directorate
Chair	Vacant	
Vice Chair	Vacant	
Branch Secretary	Hayley Garner	Full time secondment
Deputy Branch Secretary	Vacant	
Treasurer	Claire Ransom	Customer Experience
Health & Safety Officer	Vacant	
Education Co-ordinator	Martin Merritt	Customer Experience
Learning Reps Co-ordinator	Martin Merritt	Customer Experience
Equalities Co-ordinator	Vacant	
Women's Officer	Vacant	
Communications Co-ordinator	Vacant	
Voluntary Sector Co-ordinator	Lyn Berry	SARC
Young Members' Officer	Vacant	
International Relations Officer	Vacant	
Welfare Officer	Vacant	
LGBT Officer	Tansy Marshall	Noonans
Auditors	Joe Alsford	Retired
	Andy Kennesion	City Catering South
Retired Members Officer	Vacant	To be elected by retired members
Labour Link Officer	Vacant	To be elected by APF members

Election of workplace representatives

Nominations are being sought for UNISON workplace representatives – Stewards, Health and Safety Representatives and Learning Representatives. Every workplace organised by the Branch is entitled to elect UNISON representatives in each category. Paid release from work is given to carry out the duties of each role, as well as training. Support is given to new representatives.

For more information about what is involved and a nomination form, contact the Branch office on 023 8083 2740.

Are you 26 or younger?

The Branch needs a Young Members' Officer who must be under 27 years of age for the whole of their term of office. The role is ideal for someone who is interested in becoming more active in the Union. The post may be a stepping stone to becoming a steward or taking on wider roles.

The responsibilities include:

- recruiting new members and organising and encouraging existing young members to become active in the branch and in UNISON campaigns;
- building a branch young members' organisation and making sure there are potential new Young Members' officers in the future;
- making sure issues of concern to young workers are raised through the branch;
- acting as a focal point for all young workers in the branch and workplaces;
- receiving and distributing UNISON Young Members' information.

Other branch officers will help in these tasks.

If you would like to fill this vacancy, please complete a paper copy of the 'Nomination Form for Branch Officers 2018' and return it to the Branch office by 9 February 2018.

Nomination Form for Branch Officers 2018

Branch Officer Post:

Name:

Workplace:

<i>Name of Nominee</i>	<i>Proposer (please sign and print name in block capitals underneath)</i>	<i>Seconders (please sign and print name in block capitals underneath)</i>	<i>Signature of Nominee</i>

To be returned to the UNISON Office, Civic Centre by 9.00am on Friday 9 February 2018.

UNISON Southampton District Branch

Annual General Meeting

Monday 12 March

12.30pm Conference Rooms 3 / 4, Civic Centre

Sandwiches from 12.00 noon
Stalls from UNISON Affinity Groups

A G E N D A

1. Welcome / Election of Tellers
2. Minutes of the AGM 8 March 2017
3. Review of 2017
4. Branch Accounts 1 January to 31 December 2017
5. Amended Branch Rules
6. Election of Branch Officers
7. Election of Stewards
8. Election of Health and Safety Representatives
9. Branch affiliations for 2018
10. Election of Branch Appeals Panel
11. Honorarium payments to Branch Officers
12. Branch Levy
14. Prize draw for £250 in prize money

Free Prize Draw

£250 prize money

1st prize - £50

2nd prize x 4 - £25

10 prizes of £10 each

Prize money donated by
LV = Liverpool Victoria and others

Please join us for the meeting