

Working Through A Pandemic – UNISON Needs Your Views

Many workers were forced to abandon their workplaces last March and have been working from home ever since. Some may have temporarily gone back to the workplace last Autumn, whilst front line workers have continued to provide their services despite the risks from COVID-19.

Whatever your circumstances, the pandemic has affected our world at work, placing different stresses and strains on all of us.

Sandwell UNISON wants to know how this has affected you. The Branch has produced two surveys – for us to use when negotiating with employers.

One survey is for those who have primarily worked from home during the pandemic.

<https://survey.alchemer.eu/s3/90311345/Working-From-Home-UNISON-Survey>

The other is for workers who have continued to work directly for the public.

<https://survey.alchemer.eu/s3/90311362/Working-on-the-Frontline-UNISON-Survey>

Please send us your thoughts. Thank you.

UNISON Supports Vaccination Programme

UNISON fully supports a speedy, safe and effective roll out of the Government's vaccination programme.

The programme should continue to be under the management and direction of the NHS, and we acknowledge a clear role for other partners such as pharmacies and local authorities in delivering the vaccine locally.

UNISON believes the programme is the light at the end of the tunnel and we are happy to work with others to play our part.

Sandwell Leisure Trust – UNISON Continues to Fight

Despite the new lockdown, shutting leisure centres, UNISON is determined to fight SLT removing staff from national NJC pay, terms & conditions. Check out UNISON's slideshow www.sandwellunison.co.uk

Dolce Workers to Resist Aggressive Employer

Staff working for Dolce in some of Sandwell's school kitchens, are having their working hours, then pay, slashed by up to 30%.

UNISON members in two school kitchens have voted 100% for industrial action in consultative ballots to fight these attacks. These ballots are now being progressed to formal industrial action ballots.

It is not surprising that UNISON has also received pictures from disgruntled parents of sub-standard food parcels from the same company.

Sickness Meetings - Remember to Call UNISON

If you are called to a meeting to discuss your sickness/attendance, then you need to call UNISON straight away. Regardless of the stage we advise all members to seek support and representation. It can be invaluable to the outcome of the meeting.

Simply check out the telephone numbers on the Branch website www.sandwellunison.co.uk and call us.

Had a Recent Eye Test?

All employees who use computer screens on a regular basis as part of their job are entitled to a free eye test from their employer every two years.

For those of you living life through a video conference it is more important than ever to ensure you have regular eye tests.

UNISON members have elected Christina McAnea as the new General Secretary.

The votes were as follows:-

Paul Holmes	45,220	(33.8%)
Christina McAnea	63,900	(47.7%)
Roger McKenzie	14,450	(10.8%)
Hugo Pierre	10,382	(7.8%)

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