## **Phoenix**

A Sandwell UNISON Newsletter – Sept 2021



## Final Pay Offer for NJC 2021

Most local government staff in England, Wales and Northern Ireland are covered by NJC pay. Each year UNISON (along with other trade unions) submits an NJC pay claim to the local government employers. The employers respond with a pay offer, and after negotiations, UNISON consults members on the final offer. We are now consulting members on the final pay offer from the employers:

- A 1.75% pay increase (2.75% was offered to those on the lowest pay point)
  - complete a term time review
- discuss joint guidance on homeworking (doesn't include a homeworking allowance) and mental health
- incorporate statutory provisions on neo-natal leave and pay

UNISON called for a 10% pay rise, which would mean all council and school workers earn a real living wage.

Care workers, refuse collectors, social workers, teaching assistants, street cleaners and so many more have gone above and beyond during the pandemic. You kept communities safe, cared for the most vulnerable, and ensured schools remained open throughout successive lockdowns. You went out to work, so that others could stay home. This pay offer is far less than we deserve.

The UNISON NJC Committee is clear that discussions with the employers can go no further. If members reject the offer, the next step would be to initiate a ballot for industrial action to attempt to force the employers to make an improved offer. UNISON is clear – council and school workers deserve a fair and proper pay rise. We strongly recommend members vote to reject this unfair offer.

The Branch consultative ballot will be undertaken online through Alchemer (SurveyGizmo). The link to vote will be sent to all NJC members via email the week beginning 6 September, with the vote closing 23 September.

Please check your junk boxes – but if you haven't received an email to vote its because we haven't got an email address for you.

Simply call us on 07736 923559 or email us at sandwellunison@btconnect.com

Branch results will be posted on the website www.sandwellunison.co.uk after 24 September.

## Figure it Out



20%

Real value of local government pay since 2010



20%

The wealth of UK's Billionaires last year alone!



3.8%

RPI Inflation rate July 21

Is 1.75% Good Enough? Vote to Reject the Offer

Make sure you and your colleagues are a member of UNISON

To join UNISON simply click on the link <a href="https://join.unison.org.uk/">https://join.unison.org.uk/</a>

## UNISON

Britain's and Sandwell's biggest trade union www.sandwellunison.co.uk