

Strikes Continue at SLT

UNISON members at Portway Lifestyle Centre and Tipton Leisure Centre went on strike again on 14 December (picture below) against being fired and rehired to remove them from national NJC pay, terms and conditions. This is the fourth one-day strike at Sandwell Leisure Trust over this issue. The dispute is over 12 months old and is now the longest running industrial dispute in Sandwell's history.

More strike action looks set to be called unless the Trust reverse their decision.

In the meantime, management at the Trust have tabled proposals with the trade unions that will count COVID-19 related absence to targets, triggers and sick pay - alongside further tightening of their sickness absence policy.

This is not only an irresponsible proposal as the pandemic continues, it also breaks their own promise not to make any further changes until March 2022. All trade unions will vigorously oppose including COVID absence towards targets and triggers.



Joint Trade Union 2022 Pay Claim Submitted to Sandwell Leisure Trust

UNISON, GMB and Unite have submitted a joint 2022 pay claim to Sandwell Leisure Trust for 10% or a return to the NJC.

SLT have responded to the trade unions saying they are not in a position to make a formal offer until April. However, their CEO has already been informing staff verbally that the offer will be either ½% or 1%.

The joint trade unions have committed to working together to undertake a consultative ballot for industrial action to secure better pay.

This means there is a real prospect of industrial action taking place at Sandwell Leisure Trust in the build-up and during the 2022 Commonwealth Games in June.

Walker Grange Saved

After protests and opposition from residents, relatives, staff and the trade unions the proposal to potentially close Walker Grange was dropped by the Council. The residential home is now due to get the investment it deserves.

Strikes by Sandwell Bin Workers' Win Better Pay

The strikes at Serco have ended after an improved pay offer that saw pay increase by 4% for all during 2021. In addition to this HGV drivers secured an extra £1,192 to their pay. Congratulations to union members and the GMB for securing this.

Stars in Our Schools Winner 2021

Congratulations to the winner of Sandwell UNISON's Star in our Schools 2021 – Ellie Sayce,



Teaching Assistant, Main First Aider, Therapy Dog Handler at Moat Farm Infants.

[Stars in Our Schools Winner 2021 – Sandwell UNISON](#)

Branch Wins Regional Award

Sandwell General Branch won the Regional Award for Campaigning during 2020/1 for both winning better pay for electricians and organising successive successful ballots at Sandwell Leisure Trust.



Find us at Sandwell General Branch of Unison