# **Phoenix**

A Sandwell UNISON Newsletter – August 2022



# **Pay Matters**

## 2022-23 NJC Pay Offer

The NJC pay award for 2022 to local government and school support staff was announced 25 July and is summarised below:-

- It's a one-year offer, payable from 1 April 2022, for £1,925 on all pay points
- 4.04% on all allowances such as Stand-By
- Deletion of SCP1 from 1 April 2023. This is without prejudice to future negotiations regarding next year
- Increase of one day in annual leave for all staff from 1 April 2023

Whilst this offer is better for the lower paid, it is still behind the current RPI rate of inflation at 11.8% and therefore represents a pay cut in real terms.

The detail of the impact on Sandwell MBC's pay grades are shown on page 2 of this newsletter.

There will now be a consultative ballot between mid-August to mid-September that will determine UNISON's response. We urge all members to use your vote. This is your pay, and you need to let your union know how you think. Please use your vote.

[If you do not receive a vote by early September, please contact the Branch Office on 07736923559 or email sandwellunison@btconnect.com. We may need to update your contact details.]

#### Make sure you and your colleagues are in UNISON

To join UNISON simply use the links below https://join.unison.org.uk/

## UNISON



Britain's and Sandwell's **Biggest Trade Union** 

www.sandwellunison.co.uk

#### Sandwell Children's Trust

The NJC pay offer won't fix the staffing crisis at the Trust. With a social worker vacancy rate of over 45% there is an urgent need for the Trust to recruit more social workers. That's why UNISON has requested the following:-

- An increase in the market supplement from £2,500 to £6,000, in order to compete with neighbouring Councils.
- To bring forward full annual leave entitlement from day one.
- 80p per mile for mileage.

UNISON awaits to see what management offer.

#### Sandwell College

Staff voted by 59% to 41% to accept the 2022 5% pay offer from the College. UNISON has been informed this award should be in August's pay packets.

#### Serco in Sandwell

After strong votes for industrial action across all three trade unions, an improved offer of 9%, backdated to April, plus an extra 5-days annual leave for those on the statutory minimum, was made.

Whilst the offer doesn't end the two-tier workforce at Serco, union members in all three trade unions voted to accept this offer.