

## 2026-27 NJC Pay Offer

The 2026-27 NJC pay claim for school support staff and local government workers was submitted to the employers on 1 December 2025, with the headline claim of £3,000 or 10%, whichever is the greater.

The employers finally asked to meet with national representatives of UNISON, GMB and Unite on 24 March and made the following final offer:

### 3.3% on all pay points

Local government pay is worth 26% less in real terms than in 2010 and over ½ million jobs have been cut. There is now a recruitment and retention problem in many job roles.

Although the RPI inflation rate had dropped to 3.6%, energy, petrol prices and food prices are set to soar following Trump and Israel illegally starting the war on Iran and Lebanon.

Full details of the offer can be found here [NJC Pay Offer for 2026/27 – Sandwell General UNISON Branch](#)

UNISON's national NJC committee will be meeting shortly to discuss the offer and decide how to respond.

Check out the Branch website in the coming weeks to see the latest developments. [Sandwell General UNISON Branch – Stronger together](#)

## Serco Pay Claim

The Joint Trade Unions at Serco in Sandwell have submitted a pay claim. The claim is for 6% and for all staff to receive 5 days annual leave after 5 years' service to address one of the unfair issues from a two-tier workforce on different terms and conditions.

There are other requests to the claim. For full details just click on the link [2026/27 Pay Claim at Serco in Sandwell – Sandwell General UNISON Branch](#)

## Local Government Pension Scheme Under Threat

Richard Tice, Deputy Leader of Reform UK, has once again outlined Reform's plans to attack the local government pension scheme.

This includes ending defined benefits for new members and merging all funds so they can direct where it is invested.

Not content with attacking public sector pensions they intend to attack all workers by removing all the new rights in the Employment Rights Bill, bringing back the bosses' ability to fire and rehire at will and denying all workers basic rights at work such as statutory sick pay from day one of illness.

Reform UK also want to end all home working and have criticised the minimum wage for being too high.

Reform UK, backed by Billionaires and Millionaires, are revealing themselves to be the enemy of all workers.

Read UNISON General Secretary Andrea Egan's comments posted here – [Reform UK Once Again Outlines Attack on Local Government Pension Scheme – Sandwell General UNISON Branch](#)

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