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Rochdale UNISON would like to wish all its members a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year for 2017



Three simple ways to join UNISON today:

www.joinunison.org

Call UNISON

0800 171 2193

Fill in the form on the back and send it to the address below

Rochdale UNISON, Branch Office, 46 Richard Street, Rochdale, OL11 1DU

Rochdale Councillors seeking a 34% pay rise- Protest against Greed 14th December

UNISON members will be outraged to hear that just as we are being told we have to accept further austerity, councillors are set to consider voting themselves a 34% pay rise on 14th December. Council services are being cut back, staff are being made redundant, council workers are expected to swallow a permanent 1.25% pay cut (in the form of unpaid leave) and changes to pay progression that will cost us hundreds of pounds. The chief executive Steven Rumbelow thinks the councillors' pay claim is perfectly justified. How can this be?

Under pressure

The Council have recently changed their proposal for cuts to staff terms and conditions. The threat to sick pay has been removed, UNISON welcomes this, however we feel it is a shame that it has taken the prospect of industrial action for councillors to rethink this proposal.

In addition to this they are willing to pay increments to those who are entitled to them in 2017, rather than extend the freeze on pay progression until 2018. Increments will still only be paid every two years under the new proposals.

These changes came after UNISON members voted 75% in favour of industrial action in the last indicative ballot. We do not believe the Council would have come forward with these changes if they did not believe our members were serious about striking.

Still not good enough

However the proposal as it stands still means a permanent pay cut of 1.25% for the average council worker. It still means that some council workers who started working for the authority in 2012 will not reach the top of their pay scale by 2022. The cost of food, transport and utility bills are still going up. In real terms the value of your pay is over 20% down on what it was in 2010.

UNISON's stance is that you should not accept permanent changes to your contract that will mean you lose hundreds of pounds every year. We know that Rochdale is holding onto £127 million in reserves this year. Some of these reserves could be used instead of hitting council workers with yet more austerity.

UNISON would like courage you to do three things:

- Return the second indicative ballot recently issued by 12th December and Vote **YES** to industrial action
- Join the protest outside the council meeting on Wednesday 14th December at 5.30pm at Rochdale Town Hall
- Get your friends to join UNISON

The Multi-Faith Partnership with the support of RMBC Community Safety Officers are the organisers of the Annual Holocaust Memorial Commemoration.

Annual Holocaust Memorial Commemoration
Monday evening 30th January 2017
Rochdale Town Hall

Exact time and details to be announced.

The time will be approximately 6.00 p.m. at which point, people will gather at the Town Hall before walking across to the Holocaust Memorial Stone in the Memorial Gardens for a short re-dedication of the Stone. Everyone will then return to the Town Hall for the Act of Commemoration which we envisage will finish with refreshments for around 8.00 p.m.

Get help staying warm this winter

With rising fuel costs and another cold winter many members are worried about how they're going to pay this year's winter fuel bills. Help is on hand "There for You" has set up a limited fund to help UNISON members on low income by way of a one-off payment of up to £50 .

To apply and download the application form visit
unison.org.uk/thereforyou
or simply contact the Branch on 01706 925952



To be considered for a grant, you must be able to show that you meet the following criteria:

Either

- You are in receipt of housing benefit

Or

- Your household income is less than £18000

And

- Neither you/your partner have savings in excess of £800 (including rolling bank balance)
- You have not received a grant from UNISON There for you in the last 6 months.
- You must have paid a minimum of 4 weeks subscriptions before 1st December 2016

Deadline

Your application must be received no later than **17 February 2017**. Applications will then be processed and decisions communicated over the following weeks.

DATE for your diary - Workers Memorial Day 28th April 2017

UNISON will be joining working people around the world by marking Workers Memorial Day on 28th April next year. Workers memorial day is the day when we remember the thousands of people killed at work. It is also the day when we campaign for better health and safety at work to prevent future deaths and injuries in the workplace. Please come and join us at Rochdale Memorial gardens opposite Rochdale Town Hall at 12 noon.

Join **UNISON** –
essential cover if you work
in public services

Return to: UNISON Rochdale, 46 Richard St, Rochdale, OL11 1DU

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1 Tell us about you

Title	First name
Surname/family name	Date of birth / /

Home address

Postcode

Phone number (please indicate if home, work or mobile) _____

National insurance number (from your payslip) _____

Please give your ethnic origin: (tick one box)

☐ Bangladeshi	☐ Pakistani	☐ Black African	☐ Black UK	☐ White UK
☐ Chinese	☐ Asian UK	☐ Black Caribbean	☐ Black other	☐ Irish
☐ Indian	☐ Asian other			☐ White other

2 Tell us about your job

Employer's name

Your job title/occupation

Workplace name and address	Postcode
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Payroll number (from your payslip)

③ What you will pay each month

Please tick the appropriate box for your earnings before deductions.

Annual pay	Your subscription
Up to £2,000	£1.30
£2,001–£5,000	£3.50
£5,001–£8,000	£5.30
£8,001–£11,000	£6.60
£11,001–£14,000	£7.85
£14,001–£17,000	£9.70
£17,001–£20,000	£11.50
£20,001–£25,000	£14.00
£25,001–£30,000	£17.25
£30,001–£35,000	£20.30
over £35,000	£22.50

5 Choose how you wish to pay Please tick ONE box only

EITHER deduct from salary: **OR** pay by direct debit:
please complete the direct debit form below

I wish to join UNISON and authorise deduction of subscriptions from my pay by my employer.

Signature

Please go to unison.org.uk/privacy-policy to see how we will protect and use your personal information

INSTRUCTION TO YOUR BANK OR BUILDING SOCIETY TO PAY BY DIRECT DEBIT

PLEASE FILL IN THE FORM AND SEND TO UNISON, 130 EUSTON ROAD LONDON NW1 2AY

Please fill in the form and send to UNISON, 130 Euston Road London NW1 2AY

<i>Name and full postal address of your bank or building society</i>	
To: The Manager	Bank/building society
Address	
Postcode	

Name(s) of Account holder(s)

Bank/building society account number

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Branch sort code

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Signature(s)	Date
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Banks and building societies may not accept Direct Debit instructions for some types of account

4 Choose your political fund

One of the ways UNISON works on your behalf is through political campaigning. Your subscription includes a political fund payment so you won't pay any extra, but in UNISON you choose how you want that money to be used.

Please tick one box only.

Our Affiliated Political Fund takes UNISON members' views directly into the Labour Party, working to promote UNISON policies.

The General Political Fund is used to pay for branch, regional and national campaigns but is independent of any political party.

OR pay by direct debit:
please complete the direct debit form below

I wish to join UNISON and authorise deduction of subscriptions by direct debit

Date _____

We will protect and use your personal information



Service User Number
970050

Reference number (for office)
[] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

Please pay UNISON Direct Debits from the account detailed in this Instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this Instruction may remain with UNISON and, if so, details will be passed electronically to my bank/building society.