



Members Newsletter from **ROCHDALE UNISON**

ROCHDALE
PIONEER

January 2015

Rochdale UNISON Consultative Ballot on Amended Proposed Changes to Terms & Conditions for Rochdale Borough Council Staff (NOT School Employed Staff)

The results of the consultative ballot on the amended proposed changes to Terms & Conditions were as follows:

Accept

56.3%

Reject

43.2%

UNISON has informed the employer of these results and called a Special Branch Committee meeting on Wednesday 7th January 2015. The Branch Committee discussed the results and the decision was not to pursue Industrial Action as we have no mandate from our members to prepare for Strike Action.

Both Unite and the GMB ballots accepted the amended proposals to Terms & Conditions.

Due to the fact that the ballot results were so close the Branch Committee has clearly stated that we cannot agree to a collective agreement.

UNISON have arranged a mass meeting on Monday 26th January 2015, 12noon-1pm, Reception Room, Rochdale Town Hall, for members who are clearly seeking further support and advice and we will have a Regional Officer/ Organiser to assist the Branch on what support our members will receive and what we can do together over the removal of Essential Car User Allowance.

Termination of your current contract of Employment and immediate re-engagement on new Terms & Conditions for Rochdale Borough Council Staff (NOT School Employed Staff)

Members will have received a second letter from the Employer– this letter provides three months formal notice of the termination of your contract of employment with effect from 31st March 2015. The letter is also an offer of immediate re-engagement on the new proposed terms and conditions on which we had our consultative ballot (excluding occupational sick pay which has been withdrawn– removed of the first three days).

If you do not sign to voluntarily accept these changes you will **NOT LOSE YOUR JOB.** On the 1st April 2015 when you attend work your continuous service **WILL REMAIN.** There is no detriment to members that do not sign to accept these changes. UNISON can assure you that you will **NOT** lose your period of continuous service within Local Government because there is no break in your employment.

UNISON Welfare Debtline

Debtline service is available to all our members to help you manage money and deal with debt. We offer free confidential advice to help you clear your debts.

Debtline can help you deal with:

- credit card debt;
- mortgage arrears;
- home repossession;
- county court judgment claims.

Taking action

Our Debtline service is provided by debt management experts, Payplan. Using this service you get:

- immediate advice;
- a debt management plan to suit your circumstances;
- a case officer to advise you throughout your repayment programme and negotiate with your creditors;
- a reduction of multiple debt repayments into a single, affordable monthly repayment;
- a choice of payment methods
- free and confidential service with no hidden charges.

You can also choose to use the free online Payplan tools to help you come up with your own plan.

Payplan's advisers are aware of the financial support that There for You can offer and will refer you to us if they think we can help you.

Contact Debtline

Call the UNISON Welfare Debtline freephone 0800 389 3302

Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Help with debt is just one of the benefits of joining UNISON.



Rochdale UNISON AGM

Wednesday 25th February 2015

We will be holding our Annual General Meeting on an aggregate basis on Wednesday 25th February 2015.

Kevan Nelson the Regional Secretary for UNISON in the North West will be speaking and there will be elections for all of the Branch Officer posts.

Lunchtime meeting

12noon-1.45 pm

Reception Room

Rochdale Town Hall

Evening meeting

6pm - 7.45pm

Phoenix Centre

Heywood

There will be a complimentary buffet at the start of both meetings along with an AGM pack full of useful information and goodies for each member present and a prize draw.– as well as stalls from membership services.

Please could you complete and return the slip below to the Branch Office or contact us stating which meeting you will be attending so refreshments can be ordered accordingly.

----- ✂
Rochdale UNISON AGM 2015: Please tick which meeting you will be attending:

Name in Full _____

Lunchtime Meeting

☐

Evening Meeting

☐

If you have any special dietary requirements please let us know: Thank you.

Special Dietary requirements: _____

Rochdale UNISON 46 Richard Street Rochdale OL11 1DU

Tel: 01706 925951/52 - web: www.unison-rochdale.org - e-mail: unison@rochdale.gov.uk

WORRIED ABOUT PAYING YOUR WINTER FUEL BILL?

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 at 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 £40.

To apply and download the application form visit www.unison.org.uk/thereforyou or simply contact your UNISON branch office (01706 925952/51).

Everyone that applies will receive a booklet giving information about other help that may be available and how to reduce your fuel costs in the future.

UNISON Members Mass Meeting over Amended Proposed Changes to Terms & Conditions including Essential Car User Allowance.

Monday 26th January 2015, 12noon-1pm

Reception Room, Rochdale Town Hall

UNISON have arranged a mass meeting on Monday 26th January 2015, 12noon-1pm, Reception Room, Rochdale Town Hall, for members who are clearly seeking further support and advice and we will have a Regional Officer/ Organiser to assist the Branch on what support our members will receive and what we can do together over the removal of Essential Car User Allowance.

Rochdale UNISON 46 Richard Street Rochdale OL11 1DU Tel: 01706 925951/52 e-mail: unison@rochdale.gov.uk

www.unison-rochdale.org

