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Pay ballot starts 4th September!

Thousands of social workers, teaching assistants, planning officers, care-takers and other school and council staff are to be asked if they're prepared to take strike action over this year's pay offer, says their union UNISON today (Friday).

The move follows a recent consultation concerning the 2024/25 wage rise for local authority and school workers in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. In this vote 81% of the workers who took part opted to reject what they'd been offered.

The pay offer from the local government employers was for £1,290. The wage rise was due in April. The offer has been accepted by the GMB, but not by UNISON or Unite.

Ballot papers will now be sent to around 360,000 UNISON members across England and Wales, with Northern Ireland to follow later. The ballot will open on 4 September and close on 16 October.

UNISON head of local government Mike Short said: "Council and school staff were asked what they wanted to do about the employers' pay offer. A majority of those who took part opted to reject the £1,290 increase."

Work out what the pay offer means for you with our pay calculator. Share it with your friends and have a chat about pay :

<https://unisonpaycalculator.co.uk/>

Please make sure your details are up to date:

<https://www.unison.org.uk/my-unison/>



Be
on the
safe side

Health and safety reps
building

**Safe &
Healthy**
workplaces

Stand Up for Safety:

Become a UNISON H&S Rep Today!

UNISON is calling on dedicated individuals to join our
ranks as Health & Safety Reps.

Be the voice that ensures safe and fair working
conditions for all. Together, we can make a difference.

Are you ready to step up?

What does a health and safety rep do at UNISON?

Talk to members about their health and safety issues and work together with
management to resolve these issues. Investigate potential hazards. Raise concerns with
your employer to improve safety in the workplace and deal with specific problems that
arise at work.

For more information about how we protect
your rights and champion safe working
conditions, contact your branch. We're here to
support you every step of the way!

UNISON



Celebrating 2024 Year of LGBT+ workers



NORTH WEST ANNUAL MEETING

**Saturday 7th September
1100 - 1500 hours**

Taking place in person at the UNISON North West Regional Centre with virtual attendance if required. Get an update on Year of LGBT+ Workers activities, hear from Thompsons Solicitors, the Presidential Team and find out about upcoming events.



<https://tinyurl.com/UNISONNWLGBTAGM24>

The meeting is open to any UNISON member who self defines as lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans or within the LGBT+ umbrella and is in a branch based in the North West Region.

Please check that your UNISON colleagues have received this newsletter electronically—if not please ask them to contact the branch on 01706 925952 or email_unison@rochdale.gov.uk so we can update their membership record