

## **UNISON calls for a pay rise of £3,000 or 10% for all local government & school workers**

UNISON, GMB and Unite lodged a pay claim for all council and school workers employed on NJC pay in England, Wales and Northern Ireland on Thursday 29 February 2024.

**The claim calls for a substantial increase of £3,000 or 10%, whichever is the greater, on all spinal column points, from 1 April 2024.**

The **Full Claim** is available on our [pay campaign webpage](#) and has been submitted to the Employers' Side of the NJC.

The pay claim focuses on the continuing, rising cost of living and the need for a significant pay rise for all local government and school staff. The claim makes clear that poverty pay must be addressed and that a decent pay rise will have a significant impact on enabling employers to recruit and retain the staff they need.

### **Gearing up for the pay campaign!**

The NJC Employers Side will be consulting councils on the pay claim throughout March 2024, before meeting initially in April and then again in May 2024 to consider their response. It is crucial that we maximize political pressure on council and school employers during this period. We need everyone to make it absolutely clear to national and local government employers why a fair and decent pay rise is so vital.

At the same time, we need to build awareness of the NJC pay claim our members, You are vital in building support for the claim and putting our case across to politicians.

We also need to ensure that we put massive pressure on the Government. Local authorities and schools are struggling financially and it is vital that the Government funds employers properly so that they can offer and implement a decent pay increase.

You can start by getting your council to debate and pass this [Model motion](#), supporting our pay claim and calling on the Government to fund it.

And ask members to use our interactive map and email campaign tool to put pressure on Members of Parliament about local government funding. Click here: [Email your MP about our funding campaign](#)

**We need YOU to make our campaign a success. Read on to find out how you and your branch can get involved. What your branch can do to help win a decent pay rise.**

To be successful we'll need everyone to get involved in this pay campaign. UNISON is producing a wide range of resources for branches to run campaigns at a local level in support of a substantial pay rise for council and school workers. A range of materials are in production and will be available for you to start using over the next couple of weeks.

All of these resources, including the pay claim, will be available soon on our [Webpage](#).

Some are available now, and others will follow.

- Leaflet for members
- Poster to put up in workplaces
- Leaflet and poster for use in schools
- Social media/website/email 'Stand together for better pay' graphics for your campaign communications and a short video
- Model pay claims for use in academies and private contractors
- PowerPoint presentation for briefing activists and members in online meetings
- Lobby your councillor on the need for a decent pay rise
- Email your MP about our funding campaign using our interactive map

### **Spring clean your data**

We are asking local government branches to ensure our member data is not just accurate but stays that way. By spring cleaning your branch's member data, you can make the upkeep of member data a seamless part of your routine. Imagine the positive impact this could have when it's ballot time. Watch this video, showing quick steps guidance:

Quick steps guide

### **Getting members involved in the pay campaign**

Building the campaign with our members is vital to get everyone the pay rise they need and deserve for the coming year. Please ask your members to get involved by taking the following easy actions:

- 1) Tell members about the claim – you can find all the details on our webpage website
- 2) Check their membership record - it's so important that we have the right information – if even the slightest detail is incorrect or out of date in a member's record, they may miss out on the latest news on pay or, in the event of a ballot, they may not get their voting papers straight away. It takes just 5 minutes for members to check their details via MyUNISON so please ask them to do it now! My UNISON - Login Page
- 3) Ask members, friends and family, to email their councillors explaining why local government and school workers need a pay rise
- 4) Closing the funding gap – ask all members to log onto our interactive map that shows the funding gap facing each council over the next two years. Everyone can email their MP to call for central government to provide the funding needed for both high quality services and a decent pay rise for staff. Everyone can access this map to build our campaign for proper funding for local government
- 5) Spread the word about our pay claim on social media using #BetterPay2024

