

UNISON

DERBY CITY BRANCH

Here for you

Summer Update - August 2022

PUTTING THE
PRIDE
IN



In this issue

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Free Training For Members
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DERBY PRIDE
Fairness and Equality
National Joint Council PAY OFFER
and much more...



Get Ready to...

Vote today
Decide on pay
NJC 2022

UNISON
the public service union

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Branch Secretary Report

Hi Everyone,

Hi members,

I hope the summer newsletter finds you all well. What a year 2022 is turning into for me and for the UNISON branch, and as I type this we are experiencing extreme heat across Derby - apparently it's 40 degrees out there.

We have delivered face to face training this year, In March we delivered Stewards training where new stewards got face to face training on how to be the UNISON steward their workplace deserves, We have just delivered Health and safety Training to 16 new Health and safety Reps across our own Branch and we teamed up with East Midlands Ambulance Service Branch (EMAS) it really was a great week with new friendships and working relationships created.



After lots of lockdowns and no longer locked down, we did eventually all start to work at the UNISON office again. It has been great to actually meet members and work with colleagues. However, I do believe virtual meetings will still be used and I will still welcome them. Something I must remember to do now though is plan travel time.... (Head in hands moment)

We have office space in the Council House and Dennis, Ian and Rich are there across 4 days, Mon, Tues, Thurs and Friday, Wednesdays can be by appointment. If you are a Derby City Council employee pop to see them.

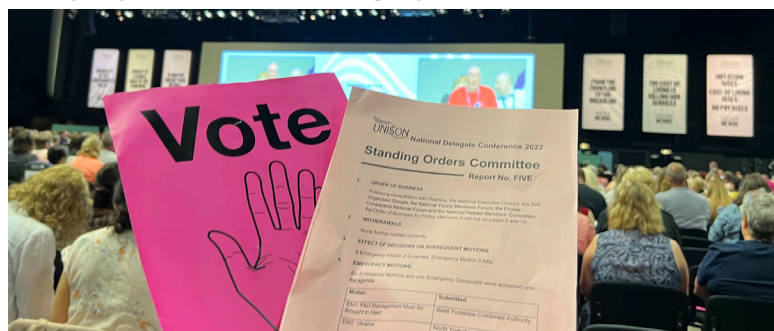
I was lucky enough to secure a place on the UNISON Leadership school, this continues to be a great opportunity and I have made some great friends across the region who are already proving to be a great Leaders I am learning so much from them as well as the course. - Teaming up with the EMAS for H&S training came from meeting the Branch secretary at Leadership School.

We have also Teamed up with Derby and Burton

Hospitals Branch and offered our online Yoga sessions along with our own members on a Friday afternoon. It is amazing to see members across branches become friends. If your interested in the online yoga it runs on a Friday between 12 and 1pm. get in touch Contactus@derbyunison.org

Working with other branches is a great way to learn and develop and learn from others, you can't beat networking - think I've missed this more than anything while we were limited to what we could and couldn't do.

Most of your branch officers attended Local Government or National Delegate Conference this June, The weather was kind to us, and we did try to make the most of the sunshine in-between conference sessions, some great debate and interesting discussions - to read more about conference click the link to the branch blog which was produced each day during conference. <http://derbycityunison.co.uk/category/conferences/>



You will see us out and about over the next few weeks discussing all things NJC and pay raises, We hope you get behind the campaign.

On July 19th it was a Social Care Lobby day - Ian Middleton and Dennis visited the Social Care Workers in the Council house and listened to concerns about the workloads, the pay and how undervalued they feel. Let's hope the Government listen!!



July 22nd saw your three Derby City Branch Officers do a walk round of the Council House, this was in support of our "Be the Reason campaign, <https://eastmidlands.unison.org.uk/be-the-reason/> Did you know UNISON has over a million Women members but only one female steward across Derby City Council (excluding Schools) Come on ladies - Your UNISON needs YOU, Your members need YOU. Get in touch with me to hear about the fantastic opportunities there are when you become

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a steward for your workplace - Contact me direct to discuss further -

beckyeverett@derbyunison.org

By no means am I excluding men from becoming



stewards I would just like a few more women to equal out the numbers.

Just in case you missed the bright and wonderful front cover to the newsletter, UNISON Derby City Branch has sponsored Derby Pride event - the event is to be held on September the 10th at Markeaton Park in Derby. It promises to be an amazing day. Come and say hello if you are able to make it. you wont be able to miss us!!

You will have seen on our Social Media that we have committed to help with a local food bank and a Support bank. We have two collection baskets in the office one for food and food products, toiletries and household cleaning items and one for sanitary and women's toiletries. We are all struggling, the cost-of-living crisis is very real. If you can manage to buy one extra item and donate to the branch baskets or even

in the trolley at the front of most supermarkets, you really would be making a difference. July 13th saw us deliver the 3rd load to the foodbank, we promised we wouldn't hold onto items, and we make sure when the basket is full, we deliver.

On a personal level, this year is to be very exciting. I am going to become a Grandma in the autumn. My eldest son and his partner are expecting their first baby. To say I am excited is an understatement. I cant wait for Grandma fun.

Anyway Members, have a wonderful summer, I wish you all a summer of creating memories, having fun, good health and Happiness.

Take care and see you all soon.

Becky x



Becky Everett - Branch Secretary

beckyeverett@derbyunison.org

Local Government Service Group Executive I Just Wanted to Say Thank You.

I would just like to say thank you to all those that have voted for me to the East Midlands General seat of the Local Government Service Group Executive.

I will ensure that I am a strong voice for members from the East Midlands. i will be updating you on anything i feel would be useful for the branch as soon as possible throughout the next two years.

Thank you again - Richard Platt - Derby City Branch



Our members receive our essential cover and support, have access to exclusive benefits and can take advantage of many training opportunities.

Lighthouse Financial Advice
Travel insurance
Pre-paid Plus Mastercard
UNISON protect accidental death insurance
UIA home insurance
Pet insurance
UNION energy
Learning and development

Car insurance from LV
Vauxhall partners programme
Breakdown cover from LV = Britannia
Rescue
UNISON Drive
Wellbeing

Health plans
Vision Express
Dental plans

UNISON rewards
UNISON protect - family protection insurance

Personal and career development courses
Financial support for learning
Courses for reps and activists
Legal advice

Travel club
Croyde bay holiday resort

Simply Visit...

benefits.unison.org.uk

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Health and Safety update

I am pleased to say that Unison have trained a lot more Health and Safety reps. Training took place between 4 July and 7 July. The training was delivered by Dave Limer from UNISON, the training was excellent.

It covered Health and Safety Law and the Regulations. Since we have had the training there has been an inquiry from a park ranger if he can become a health and safety steward. I am quite sure the Branch Committee will ratify, But I am very pleased that Unison members are taking an interest in Health and Safety and the wider issues H&S creates.

I think that members think it's a lot of work to become a Health and Safety Rep or a workplace steward, but honestly there is so much support in place for all you should think about joining this great team and making a difference within your work team. Manual workers down at Stores Road during

the recent heatwave asked if they could start work earlier to try and miss most of the heat of the day Thank fully Management agreed to this, I also checked if all workers had sun block, water bottles, and big hats to keep the sun of them. I delivered UNISON water bottles. This week I'm taking some mini cool bags to help keep lunches fresh in the warmer days.

Going forward I will be asking to see a couple of risk assessments each week from Stores Road and DCC to look though them to see everything is up to date. I am pleased to say that after Covid lock downs I am now going out doing site visits again, which I am more than happy to do. Let me know if your Team needs a Site visit or if you have any concerns.

Dennis Jackson

Unison Health and Safety Officer.

Welcome to all our new members

We would just like to say a very big welcome to all of our new members at Derby Homes, Derby City Council and all other areas of our branch. it's fantastic to know you have now joined us and we can support you from now on. Don't forget you can always recommend a colleague to join us, just get in touch. Look out for more updates and exciting things coming in the future.

Don't Forget you can access the UNISON Knowledge Base at any time by clicking here <https://www.unison.org.uk/get-help/knowledge/>



Are you paying too much subs?

Don't pay more than you need to.

check the list and let us know if you are paying too much (or too little)

Annual pay - Can we use the subs banding chart
<https://joining.unison.org.uk/membership-rates/>

UNISON Learning

During the year we have had family baking sessions with Jess on a Saturday morning. We hope be continuing this in September- please look out for the email and join in it is fun to do with the kids. (or without)

We have successfully put on introduction to Makaton and Level 2, this is very popular with members. so, we are looking to push your learning and put on Level 3 on in the Autumn.

Derbyshire Learning forum have put on some courses such as chair yoga, papercraft for beginners, creative writing and introduction to Makaton. in Autumn there will more courses put on by the Learning Forum, please keep an eye open for them on the Unison website and our own Branches Social Media.

As a branch we have started to work with Derby's Employment, Skills & Adult Education team, this will entail supporting any community training for Unison members, also supporting any training that DCC is offering. Along with DCC Unison will put on courses for employees of DCC. Your Branch Secretary Becky will be in talks alongside Gavin McCann who is UNISON East Midlands Regional Learning & Development Organiser. This is a very exciting project and can only improve our members roles within the DCC and personal CPD training.

If you have any ideas for courses you would like us to put, please make contact with us. contactus@derbyunison.org

Jill Cartwright Lead ULR for Derby City Supported by branch ULRs

People Services - Assistant Branch Secretary

It's been a busy couple of months. We are now in the council house four days a week (Mon-Tues and Thurs-Fri). We are on the ground floor by stair 3. Please pop by and say hello to us.

We have been contacted by members who felt they were unfairly treated when not receiving the winter retention payment given to some staff in adult care homes. UNISON has challenged this with the employer and are continuing to get decisions overturned at time of writing. We will keep you updated!

We spoke to some staff from Adult Social Care as part of the Social care Lobby day on 19.07.22. It was lovely to see you at the Council House and we would love more members to come and say hello. Pictures

I am planning to come and visit workplaces over the next couple of months. Visits to Curzon St and Kedleston Rd are planned. If you would like UNISON to arrange a visit to your workplace, please get in touch.

We would love more members to become workplace contacts and stewards. If this is something that interests you, Come and see me in The Council House I would be happy to have a chat with you.

**Ian Middleton
Assistant Branch Secretary
Peoples services DCC**

UNISON Learning is for you.... I challenge you - tell me something you want to learn, There will be a course for it, There will be training available... Try me..... I will find the course for you and its FREE!! yes FREE £0 and 0p.

- A unison member has just completed a PA skills course for FREE this got the member a chance pf promotion.
- Another member has just completed her Level 2 in Makaton FREE a valuable qualification for her workplace and any future career.
- The skills academy has access to over 300 courses some are a few hours some are over a few weeks. There is something for everyone.

We also have members join in with weekly online yoga sessions, and we have had huge success with the family baking. Our members have some upcoming chefs in the UNISON families. Contactus@derbyunison.org



Vote today Decide on pay NJC 2022



Youth workers, care workers, refuse collectors, social workers, teaching assistants, community workers, street cleaners and so many more go above and beyond every single day. Local government staff keep communities safe, clean and accessible throughout the year, yet receive little recognition for the work you do. With the cost of living skyrocketing to new highs every day, it's no longer enough to state you deserve decent pay for the work you do – you need it.

In June, the trade unions submitted a pay claim demanding a substantial increase of either £2,000 or RPI (whichever is greater) on all spinal column points, from 1 April 2022. The employer's side have responded with a pay offer for 2022/23 for an increase of £1,925 on all NJC pay points, with effect from 1 April 2022. This amount would be added to every point on the pay scale as a fully consolidated pay increase.

This pay offer is much higher than members have seen in recent years and is the highest flat-rate offer made to the public sector this year. It would give members at the bottom end of the pay scale a 10.5% increase in pay – and more than three-quarters of employees would get a 6% pay rise or more. The offer is also very close to the £2,000 which UNISON branches and the NJC committee agreed should be a key part of the pay claim.

Having said that, our claim was for £2,000 or RPI inflation, whichever is the higher. RPI inflation is currently 11.8%, so this offer doesn't meet either of those aims, and it doesn't deliver a pay increase that keeps up with the rising cost of living. By not keeping up with these costs, wages are worth less than before – effectively a pay cut – and that discrepancy between pay and inflation only increases for those higher up the pay spine.

Discussions with the employers have reached an end, making this the best offer that can be achieved by negotiations. So, UNISON is putting it to you, our members. We are consulting you on whether you wish to accept or reject this pay offer.

The UNISON NJC Committee is not making a recommendation that members should vote 'accept' or 'reject' – it's totally your choice. It is vital that you make your voice heard on this matter so that we have a full picture of every member's view.

The consultation is running until Monday 19 September. You will receive an email from your branch after 19 August with a link to vote online so keep an eye on your emails and make sure to have your say!

You should be aware that if there is a majority vote to reject the offer, the next step would be an industrial action ballot to attempt to force the employers to make an improved offer so think carefully about what you feel would be the best option for you – you can't assume others will speak on your behalf, so add your voice to the conversation so your pay isn't decided for you!

DONT FORGET TO USE THE CHANCE TO VOTE WHEN THE TIME COMES!!!

You can read more here...

<https://www.unison.org.uk/our-campaigns/fair-pay-now-council-school-workers/>



NJC PAY BALLOT
**OPENS
MONDAY**
22.08.2022



School Convenor

School Convenor

Well, it's been another busy year within schools, Covid has continued to cause you all a few problems along the way but you've not let it stop you doing the fantastic work you do.

Unfortunately, this seems to be something we need to learn to live with as best we can.

As support staff you have continued to support education and kept the young people of the city safe, just as you did throughout the pandemic without any thoughts for yourselves or your family at home. You all just did! and DID well!

During the pandemic support staff kept schools open for all the young children of Derby, each and every one of you should be extremely proud of this and the MPS need to remember this when they talk about support staff in the negative way they do. Becky has invited Kemi Badenoch to work with Teaching Assistants for the day to see if she still thinks we are superfluous. Between this MP and the new Education Ministers hand gestures, the children we support are very lucky

to have such a dedicated work force.

Becky and myself have attended many meetings throughout the school year from sickness to disciplinary hearings. We have supported staff through TUPE meetings / restructure meetings ensuring our members have the correct information and asked the difficult questions on their behalf.

In the new school year, we are hoping to visit as many schools as we can, this is so we can get to meet the amazing support staff and share all the good things UNISON can offer you, member learning, shopping discounts, health care, free wills and even information on the Croyde pay holiday village.

We would like to wish you all a relaxing holiday and hope the sun shines when we finally finish school. See you soon

Jill Cartwright - School Convenor
Becky Everett

HEADLINE EVENT SPONSOR



UNIVERSITY OF
DERBY

SAT 10 SEPT

12-6.30PM

MARKEATON PARK

FREE ENTRY

- **LIVE MUSIC**
 - **FUN FAIR**
 - **MARKET ZONE**
 - **FOOD & DRINKS**
 - **FAMILIES AREA**
- Sponsor: Ceremonies by Leni Robson



HOSTED BY: SORAYA VIVIAN

BABY D - URBAN COOKIE COLLECTIVE

HEADLINE ACTS SPONSORED BY THE CROWN INN

KAREN PARRY - AMRICK CHANA [TURBAN DIVA]

K HARRISON [EX UNITED VIBE] - MATTY HAYNES

FAYE POZER - THE DOLLY SHOW [DOLLY PARTON TRIBUTE]

ATLANTA ENTERTAINMENTS - DANCERS & PERFORMERS

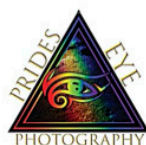
DIVA CHANEL - DJs: DJ WILL & DJ ADZ - & MORE!

OFFICIAL PRIDE AFTER PARTY @ CROWN INN, CURZON STREET, TIL 3AM



@DerbyPrideLGBT

www.derbypride.co.uk



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Derby City Council



COMMUNITY FUND

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contract and project management for
rail | energy | construction



Codemakers

CIRCUS



STRONG

PUTTING THE PRIDE IN



Whoever you are we are here for you!

UNISON Derby City Branch are beyond proud to be sponsoring this year's Derby Pride, celebrating all that what makes us unique and support each other. We are proud to support all our current members and welcome any new ones with open arms, whoever you are we are here for you. We represent staff who provide public services in the public and private sector.

Pride for us means so much to us and as a Trade Union we know how important it is to stand up, campaign for rights and support each other in solidarity. So come and find us, see what freebies and fun we may have happening in our area at Pride along with Derby Homes who are joining us as well in our area on the day, it will be great to see you all!

Pride is NOT just about one month a year, its all year round

This year marks the Celebration of 50 Years of UK Pride.

This year is especially significant, as 2022 marks 50 years since the first Pride event in the UK.

The first Pride rally took place on July 1, 1972, (as this was the nearest Saturday to the anniversary of the Stonewall riots of June 28, 1969), and although the Pride parade will take place on July 2 this year, June is considered to be Pride month.

Here are links to find out more about Pride Month, both present and past.

<https://www.standard.co.uk/news/uk/history-pride-month-britain-50-years-first-uk-rally-stonewall-riots-lgbtq-plus-b1003488.html>

<https://lordslibrary.parliament.uk/pride-in-the-uk-50-years/>

Fairness and Equality

PLEASE REMEMBER - Everyone is entitled to be treated with dignity and respect. The ability to live and work without prejudice is a fundamental right, regardless of your background, sexuality, disability, identity and experiences.

One of UNISON's main aims is to help workers fight for fairness and equality in the workplace and beyond. Challenging discrimination and winning equality is at the heart of everything UNISON does.

Besides the right not to be discriminated against or bullied, fair treatment also includes dignity at work, access to opportunities and equal working conditions and pay.

There is never a wrong time to speak up!

Contact us or read more here... <https://www.unison.org.uk/about/what-we-do/fairness-equality/>

**Dont forget to come and
see us at Derby Pride on
Saturday 10 September
12 - 6.30pm**



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Communities and Place - Assistant Branch Secretary

I can't believe it's been 10 months since I joined UNISON, and 6 months since I became a Local Rep for Stores Road and Assistant Branch Secretary for Communities and Place. Its been a rollercoaster...

It was a big decision when I left my previous union where I had been a rep for a number of years and decided to join UNISON. I already had a good relationship with UNISON and had attended conferences where we were able to network.

I very quickly realised the dedication and support UNISON Derby City Branch gives the members, and what a good team all the branch officers are workplace reps are. Nothing is too much trouble for anyone.

UNISON is where I see my future as an activist, and I am really pleased I made the decision to move across to Derby City UNISON.

It was a big shock to all at Derby City Branch when I joined, but everyone was so welcoming including regional officers, everyone was so supportive and made the transition easier. There were a few challenges to face, but we faced them together as a team.

I knew I had made the correct decision when in the first week of moving to UNISON over 60 members from other local unions - this was a huge shock to everyone, and they still keep coming!

I'd like to thank all branch officers for the support they have given me, especially Becky and Emma.

I have already increased the number of Stewards and Health and Safety Reps at Stores Road; I have learned a lot about UNISON already and still have such a lot to learn. I have completed UNISONs stewards Training and Health and Safety Training and have other training booked for during the year. I have 2 days facility time at the moment, Wednesday and Friday. Wednesday I am at the UNISON office in Chaddesden and Friday I am in The Council House and Stores Road.

I have been a branch delegate to the UNISON H&S seminar in London, and I am also attending The Works Stress Network event in November.

I enjoy supporting members and representing with workplace issues, If I am unsure of anything there is a wealth of knowledge across the branch, and everyone is always happy to support and guide.

I am looking forward to the rest of the year with UNISON and will be hoping to put myself forward as Assistant Branch Secretary next year at the next AGM.

Rich Ruston
Assistant Branch Secretary
Communities and Place



**HELP US END
PERIOD
POVERTY**

Can you Help us End Period Poverty?

We hope you will get behind our campaign to donate to our local charities who give sanitary products, unopened toiletries, or baby wipes to girls and women here in Derby.

When you go shopping buy an extra packet of any sanitary products, unopened toiletries, or baby wipes to donate to us, every donation will help someone in need.

If you are able to support please contact us on
contactus@derbyunison.org
or call us on 01332643216 / 643217

UNISON Free Wills Service

UNISON offers a free standard wills service for members and their partners (if doing a mirror will). We also offer reduced rates for members' complex wills. The simplest way to obtain your will is to use our bespoke on line wills service.

This service is very straightforward to use, just complete the online questionnaire. The questionnaire with its online guidance will carefully take you through the process. Click here or scan the QR Code
<https://www.unison.org.uk/get-help/services-support/legal-services/for-you-and-your-family/>



East Midlands Regional Report

Your Regional Team have been busy on behalf of Derby City Branch these last few months. We have been out visiting schools, surveying members, encouraging new stewards and working with the branch who have recently put on some fantastic new stewards training and training for H&S Reps.

As our members become increasingly impacted by the Cost of Living, rightly our focus in the coming months will be around pay and terms and conditions and supporting the branch with the desire to reach as many of you as possible to hear your views and issues.

We have seen lots of casework through the regional team in the last few months and a focus on members rights.

Sean Kelly Walsh moves to work with our Case Support Team this month and therefore we say farewell to Sean for now whilst he embarks on a new adventure. I would like to thank Sean for all his work.

Regional Team- Emma, Sean & Matt

Update YOUR details

There is so many people to update when you move house, change jobs, get married, retire make sure you add updating UNISON to your list.

Email us at
contactus@derbyunison.org
We will make the changes to your membership so you don't miss out on important information relating to your workplace.



Are you one of our many Young Members?

Our Young members officer is arranging a go Karting day out, please email
contactus@derbyunison.org
if you are under 27 years of age and if you would be interested in joining in this event. Its sounds like a fun day out.

Exclusive Member discounts



Good news...

As a member of UNISON, you're entitled to exclusive discounts and savings on a range of LV= insurance products through your union membership. Just go to...

<https://www.lv.com/unison>



Get involved, become a steward

Whatever your problem at work, from broken central heating to mass redundancies, UNISON workplace representatives (reps), stewards and other activists work together to protect the interest of members.

Get intouch with us if you want to get involved more, everyone can make a difference no matter how small.



Why Not Share this Newsletter with a Friend?

Go on and share this newsletter with a friend who you think would like to be kept informed. Also if they don't receive it help them to update their contact details, send us an email to contactus@derbyunison.org



Did you know we have a retired members group? Would you like to still be involved and take part in helping future activists with your knowledge and experience? You can join for a fixed price of £15 to Join don't hesitate to contact us below.

Please feel free to cut out the below to keep to remember how to contact us

Our New Location

We couldn't be more proud about our new offices, we officially opened the Branch in October 2021 and we can't wait to see you.

We have two private meeting spaces and a communal space where we will be able to engage with you, and also deliver small training sessions, also providing desk space for our officers to work effectively in the future



Contact us

**UNISON Derby City Branch,
59 Roosevelt Avenue,
Chaddesden,
Derby, DE21 6JR**

Telephone:

01332 643216 / 643217

Email:

contactus@derbyunison.org

How do I Join?

From
£1.30
a month

You can become a member anytime for support and help.

**Call FREE to join - 0800 171 2194
or Visit join.unison.org.uk**

**there
for you**

Members experiencing financial and emotional difficulties can contact our welfare charity, There for You, which provides a confidential advice and support service for members and their dependants.

supporting UNISON members
when life gets tough

For more information contact us on **020 7121 5620** or email
thereforyou@unison.co.uk or contact us for more information

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www.derbycityunison.co.uk