ALL OUT ON 10 JULY!

Members say NO to employers offer!

You will know by now that 59% of UNISON members have voted to reject the NJC employers’ pay offer for 2014-15 in the strike ballot. Each member balloted has been sent a letter with the results below:

Ballot result:

Number of votes cast: 85,020
Number answering “yes” to the question: 49,836
Number answering “no” to the question: 35,062
Number of spoiled voting papers: 122

Industrial Action Agreed

The Industrial Action Committee has agreed to the UNISON NJC Committee request for strike action on 10 July.

Every branch and every member of UNISON now needs to work very hard to deliver a massive turnout and support the action. Only a huge display of strength will get the employers back to the bargaining table – with or without ACAS.

UNISON does not take the decision to ballot for strike action lightly and we are aware that many members are facing difficult times with prices riding high. That is why we need every member to participate in the action to get an improvement to the insulting offer. We will be providing hardship funds for those who suffer hardship as a consequence of the action.

What action will we take?

There will be an initial day of all-out action on 10th July. This will be followed by a further two days of strike action in September if the employers won’t budge.
What needs to be done?

A branch action list is attached to this bulletin and sets out the key steps to be taken. There is a tight timetable for the action, so every branch and every member needs to switch into action immediately to show the employers we mean business. This means:

- Letting every member and non member know that the strike is going ahead
- Talking to them about why the offer is not acceptable
- Getting your Regional NJC reps of Local Government section staff to come and speak at your branch meeting
- Telling members why they need to take action on 10th July if they want any chance of an improved offer and what they will have to do
- Recruiting non-members to UNISON and showing them we are fighting for their pay and conditions and a better deal for the future
- Running the LAOS activity on preparing for industrial action, using our pay campaign materials (attached)
- Working closely with GMB and UNITE colleagues to deliver a strong local campaign.

We are asking EVERY UNISON MEMBER to email her/his councillors and MP via our web link https://secure.unison.org.uk/unisonf0d2bfd2bf1d3bbfa7ac24c0e625b2ff6c26750879/unison1/at-work/local-government/key-issues/local-government-pay/take-action/ and demand a better offer. Everyone lives in a local authority. 1.3 million local residents will make a big impact! Please get this going in your branch asap.

What will we do at the UNISON Centre?

We will:

- Send a letter to your councillors and MPs explaining why the offer must be improved
- Push the employers to reopen negotiations on the pay offer
- Let them know that 1% is not enough for our members’ to keep up with living costs
- …and show how low pay affects your pensions for the rest of your lives
- Run a high profile press and media campaign to get our case across to the public
Campaign materials

We are now bulk despatching direct to branches strike materials on the following basis:-

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Branch Membership Numbers</th>
<th>Members leaflet stock 3418</th>
<th>Branch poster stock 3421</th>
<th>General public leaflet stock 3419</th>
<th>Sticker sheets stock 3420</th>
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<td>(500 – 1k)</td>
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<td>20</td>
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Additional orders can be made via the online catalogue or if urgent stockorders@unison.co.uk

Branches can also order now: official placards - stock number 0703, pay placards – stock number 3370, blank placards - stock number 0713, armbands - stock number 3037 via the online catalogue or if urgent stockorders@unison.co.uk

There will also be speaker’s notes and key messages for you to explain why we want an improved offer. These will be sent out and put up on the campaign web page.

We are asking Regions to invite speakers from Head Office and Regional NJC Committee reps to Regional meetings too.

We will be calling branches next week about your plans for mobilising for the strike.

Recruit and organise!

Every branch has to involve non-members and get them to join in our dispute on pay. Make sure you use the pay campaign as the basis for boosting UNISON’s bargaining power and get out and talk to those in workplaces outside the town hall. The more of us there are the more the employers will listen!