

OCTOBER 2 - 2024

Branch NJC Newsletter

NJC PAY CLAIM 2024 - 2025 .

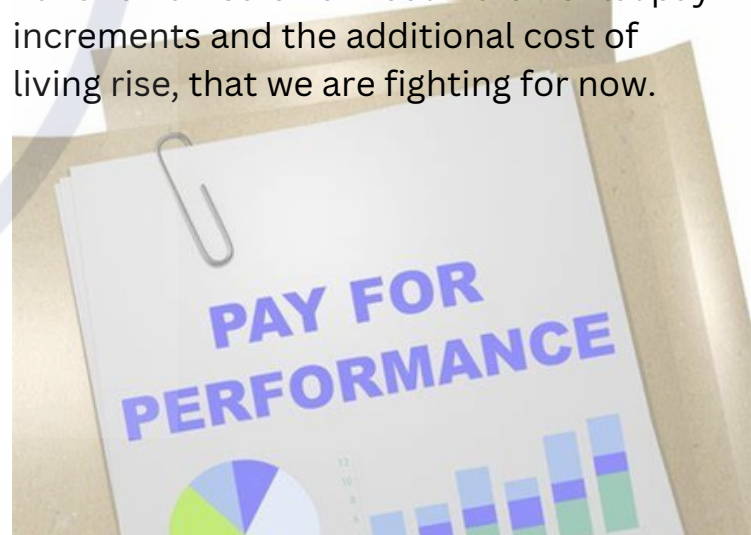
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It's the final countdown

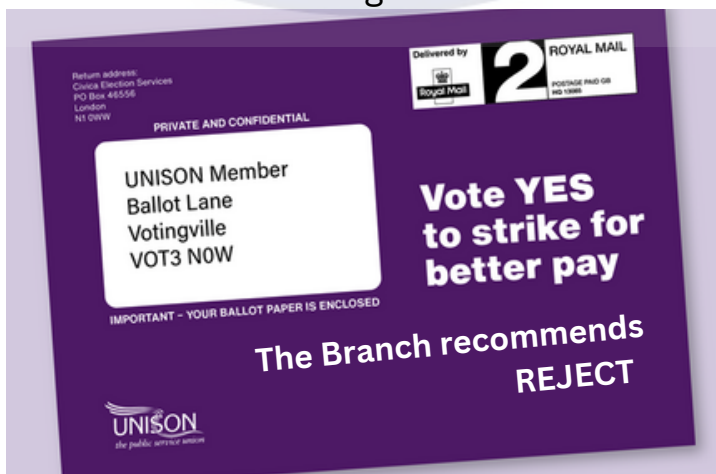
With just over 2 weeks to go before the ballot closes on 16 October, if you haven't voted yet, time is rapidly running out. It is Unison's biggest annual pay ballot, with over 360,000 members taking part. It offers NJC members the best opportunity to increase their spending power. If you haven't voted yet, do so today, if you haven't received your ballot paper, don't worry. You still have time to request a replacement, and get your vote counted. Call Unison Direct on 0800 0857 857, and ask for a replacement NJC ballot paper. The line closes on October 9th, so you might have a week, but do it now to make sure that you get your vote counted. You have to be in it, to win it, and this remains our best opportunity to increase our spending power. Results will be known a week after the closing date.

Branch Secretary Notes.

Unison members in Cambridgeshire County Council, have for the last 10 years been on performance pay. This change in seeing pay rise annually by over £750, has left the only pay rise you are entitled to, the cost of living rise. **Since** 2010, we have experienced the longest period of austerity in British politics, it has meant that CCC employees have suffered a greater loss of income, than most other Council workers across the Country, who have remained on annual incremental pay increments and the additional cost of living rise, that we are fighting for now.



This is one reason why Unison members at CCC need to consider with care, whether to vote in the 2024 pay campaign or not. Click on the ballot envelope to take you to the Branch website, click the NJC Pay 2024 menu for all the information that you need and join us at a NJC meeting.



Your Vote Counts only if you return your ballot

Stand together for better pay



COUNCIL & SCHOOL WORKER PAY 2024

The Rising Cost Of Living And The Lowering Of Your Pay And why you should vote YES to bring the employer back to the negotiating table.

The Cost of Living has risen at the fastest rate in living memory. It's not only **Gas** that has risen faster than your pay; in 2020 gas was priced at 12p per therm, in 2022 it was £3.56. In July 2024 it was 94p, a hike rise of nearly 8 times its low. **Electricity** has risen 124% since 2014, with the average monthly bill topping out at a whopping £363 per month in 2022, though like most energy costs, it has fallen back, it remains much higher at £77 than the 2020 levels of £24 per month. **Petrol and Diesel** in recent years have seen the highest prices in living memory. In 2022 drivers were regularly paying over £2 per litre, Fuel has slowly returned to the levels of 2014, but we were overcharged to the tune of £900million at supermarket forecourts. Money that we as consumers will never



see returned to our pockets, where it could help towards not only energy costs but food as well. **Food** inflation has slowed, now at 7% from it's high in March 2023 of over 19%. It is still well above your **Pay**, which has fallen by on average 25% since 2010. Without that improvement to your pay, you will continue to suffer the high costs of our essentials to exist, energy, and food. Whatever decision, the important action you need to take, is to return your ballot paper.



Why Your Vote Is More Important In 2024

This year Unison is conducting a disaggregated ballot. This means that each employer has an opportunity to take action, as long as 50%+1 of the membership vote, and that vote is for action. Remember, voting to Reject the offer, does not mean that you are voting for strike action. Voting Reject will bring the employer back to the table, where Unison can negotiate a better pay settlement for you. Any improved offer, will come back to you to vote on again. A massive 80% rejected the £1290 in the June consultative ballot, reject it again and get a better offer!

Check your contact details at: <https://www.unison.org.uk/my-unison/>

Visit the Branches website and click on the NJC Pay 2024 pages for more information: <https://www.unisoncambridgeshire.org.uk>