



GMB@DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

Welcome to your Winter 2017 GMB Newsletter

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**Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year to all GMB members**



The Branch Officers and Shop Stewards would like to pass on their best wishes to all GMB members and wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. We hope that you all enjoy the festive period.

The branch appreciates the support that you have given this year in the various charity events we have held and we hope that the services and support we have offered has been of use to our members.

Christmas Shopping Trip to York



This year's shopping trip to York took place on 18th November and was attended by one of our largest groups yet.



The weather held out for us and provided a perfect day for GMB members to soak up the festive atmosphere and enjoy the sights and sounds of the Christmas markets.

As always, there were plenty of activities on the two coaches on the way down to York, which helped keep our members entertained including a prize raffle, general knowledge quiz and various games of Bingo!

Christmas Shopping Trip to York



Pay Update 2018/19

GMB
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GMB@WORK

DEC 2017



**LOCAL
GOVERNMENT**

IMPORTANT PAY UPDATE

GMB and the other unions representing workers in local government have received a pay offer from the National Employers for Local Government Services, who negotiate pay on behalf of 350 local authorities in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

The pay offer stands to affect over 1 million workers. Local government staff have been offered a two-year pay increase from 1 April 2018. The local government pay offer has three key features:

1) The majority of staff - those on salaries starting at £19,430 FTE per annum - would receive an uplift of 2 per cent on 1 April 2018 and a further 2 per cent uplift on 1 April 2019.

2) Staff on the bottom of the national joint pay spine (Spine Column Point 6 - 19) will receive higher increases. The starting rate will move to £8.50 on 1 April 2018 (a 9.3% increase) and will further move to £9.00 on 1 April 2019.

3) The offer also includes the introduction of a new national pay spine on 1 April 2019.

Full details of the pay offer will be presented to all GMB members across Local Government so GMB members can have a say on their pay.

Throughout the GMB pay pinch campaign www.paypinch.org the GMB has been clear that local government workers are suffering the worst squeeze on their pay in living memory, and that the years of pay pinching by government must be brought to an end with decent pay rises.

The GMB will now be giving the employers' formal pay offer the careful scrutiny and consideration it requires – and it will be discussed in the coming week at a special Conference of GMB National Joint Council Representatives from England, Wales & Northern Ireland scheduled for Wednesday 13th December 2017.

For more detail on the employers' offer - see here: <https://www.local.gov.uk/about/news/council-employees-pay-offer-announced-0>

GMB statement can be found at: <http://www.gmb.org.uk/newsroom/council-pay-offer-considered.html>

Please pass this important pay update to a non-trade union member. Should they wish to be included in the GMB pay ballot ask them to sign up at www.gmb.org.uk/join

Remembrance Day Service

GMB
GMB@WORK



Branch President Les Timbey laid a wreath at this year's Remembrance Day Service at County Hall on behalf of the branch and it's members



Les also read the Remembrance Poem on behalf of Durham County Council before the service observed the two

They shall grow not old,
As we that are left grow old,
Age shall not weary them,
Nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun,
And in the morning
We will remember them.



minutes silence to remember and honour those who have paid the price for our freedom.

Children In Need



The branch held a cake sale in aid of Children In Need in the County Hall office and raised a grand total of **£285.88**



Thanks to all those who donated for this very worthy cause



Derrick Little Memorial



It has been 11 year's since our previous Branch Secretary, Derrick Little, passed away and the branch have paid their respects to him by laying flowers in the grounds of County Hall.



Derrick was Branch Secretary from 1977 to 2006 and is deeply missed by many friends and colleagues



GMB Stalls



Over the coming weeks, GMB reps will be visiting various locations and holding stalls to provide information on our benefits and services



This will also be an opportunity for members to collect their 2018 diaries. If you miss the stalls then you can contact the branch to arrange to collect a diary.

Social Events



Each year the branch organises a number of social events for our members.



These include a Summer trip to the seaside town of Whitby in August and a Christmas shopping trip to York in November

There is also the yearly gathering at Durham Miners Gala where we carry the branch banner through the City until we reach the Racecourse where we have a marquee set up for members



If you have any suggestions for ideas for future social events please let the branch know as we are always keen to hear new ideas from our members.



GMB Benefits



UIA—Home Insurance Offer

Just one phone call to us today could cut the cost of your home insurance, so what are you waiting for?



- Great Value
- Interest-free monthly payments
- Extra 10% discount on Combined Buildings & Content policies
- Get up to £50 towards any switching costs your current insurer might charge
- 97% of people would recommend us**
- 100% UK-based call centres
- A dedicated, highly experienced Claims Team from the start to finish of any claim

Just call 0800 072 9922 (0143 876 1651 for mobile users)

GMB Road Traffic Fund



If you drive as part of your work then the Road Traffic Fund is ideal for you.

For just an additional 10p per week to your GMB contributions, the fund offers a variety of benefit for those who drive as part of their work, including the payment of speeding fines (conditions apply)

Joining the Road Traffic Fund couldn't be easier.

Contact the branch for more details



Highly rated insurance from LV=

Good news... GMB members are entitled to exclusive discounts on a wide range of LV= insurance products through your union membership.

5 Star rated cover – awarded by Defaqto, the independent financial researcher, for the 11th year in a row for being one of the best quality car insurance products on the market. With our comprehensive cover we offer features and benefits including accidental damage and personal accident cover.

LV= also offer caravan insurance as well as discounted rates to GMB members on the following insurance cover:

Classic car insurance – our comprehensive car insurance policy offers you protection for your pride and joy in case something should ever happen.

Motorcycle insurance – motorbike lovers can enjoy our motorcycle insurance with full cover of helmet and leathers and can protect their no claim discount if they have 4 years claim free for the life of their policy.

- Accidental damage to your car
- Uninsured driver promise – no loss of No Claim Discount and no excess to pay
- Misfuelling cover if you accidentally fill your car with the wrong fuel
- New locks and keys if your keys are lost or stolen
- Unlimited cover for factory fitted phone, audio and sat nav equipment
- A new-for-old car replacement if yours is less than 12 months old
- £10,000 personal accident cover – if you or your partner are injured
- Replacement child car seats
- £200 cover for personal belongings in your car

Contact the branch for more details

Social Media



Please follow the GMB
Durham Local Authority
Branch on Social Media



@durhamgmb



@GMBDurham



@durhamgmb

Or visit our branch website

www.durhamgmb.info



Keeping in Touch



Section 188 Redundancy Notices and Restructures

Please contact the Branch if you receive a Section 188 notice or your service is going through a restructure.

03000 268135

or

gmb@durham.gov.uk

GMB Bulletins

Please note: up-to-the minute information for members is posted onto the Durham County Council bulletin board

Remember — You're better off in the GMB

GMB APPLICATION FORM

Please use BLOCK CAPITALS

GMBNORTHERN
REGIONFOR UNION USE ONLY Section Branch No Membership No Date of joining

Please return your completed application form to: Membership Department, GMB Northern Region, 1 Mosley Street, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 1YE

PERSONAL DETAILS

Surname First Name Title Mrs/Miss/Ms/Mr Date of Birth

Home Address

Home Tel Mobile

Postcode Email National Ins. No.

I agree to abide by GMB rules* Signature

Date

We ask for your ethnic origins as part of our equal opportunities policy of improving services to all members

Bangladesh ☐ Black African ☐ Black Caribbean ☐ Black British ☐ Chinese ☐ Indian ☐ Pakistani ☐ White ☐ Other ☐

* The GMB Rulebook is available online at www.gmb.org.uk or via your GMB office

YOUR EMPLOYMENT DETAILS

To ensure that the service you receive is up to the standards you expect please include as much information as possible regarding your employment.

Employer

Address where you work

Postcode

Job title How many hours a week do you work?

Department Pay No

Work Tel Pay Date

WHAT YOU PAY Rates as from October 1st, 2017

- Grade 1 Full-time (working more than 20 hours per week)
£3.05 per week ☐ or £13.22 per month ☐
- Grade 2 Part-time (working between 10 and 20 hours per week)
£1.78 per week ☐ or £7.72 per month ☐
- Working 10 hours or less per week
£1 per week ☐ or £4.34 per month ☐
- Apprentice Rate ☐ Non Working Student ☐
- £2.00 per month ☐ £1.00 per month ☐
- Please tick the appropriate box to indicate how often you are paid:
Weekly ☐ Fortnightly ☐ Four Weekly ☐ Monthly ☐

ADDITIONAL PROTECTION

To join the Road Traffic Fund and/or Sick and Accident Society, please tick the relevant boxes:
Road Traffic Fund ☐ Sick and Accident Society ☐

Important - Please read "Additional Protection" on page 10 for further information before deciding to join.
Funds subject to rule - copy of rules will be sent out upon joining

CHOOSE EITHER AUTHORISATION OF DEDUCTION OF YOUR TRADE UNION CONTRIBUTIONS FROM YOUR PAY

Section 68, Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidated) Act 1992 as amended

- I authorise my employer to deduct from my pay each week/month the sum of*

£

or other amounts as may be fixed by the GMB from time to time.

* Only available if your employer operates this scheme

Your information will be recorded by the GMB and used to send you relevant publications, ballot forms and mailings.

If you do not wish to receive information from GMB, excluding items which must be sent by rule/law, please tick here ☐

- Please start the deductions immediately and pay the amounts to the GMB.
- I note that this agreement may be cancelled by one month's notice in writing.
- I give permission to my employer to notify the GMB of any future change of address.

Signed Date

OR INSTRUCTION TO YOUR BANK OR BUILDING SOCIETY TO PAY BY DIRECT DEBIT



Please return to: GMB Northern Region, 1 Mosley Street, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 1YE

Name and full postal address of your Bank or Building Society branch

To the Manager of Bank/Building Society

Address

Postcode

Name(s) of account holder(s)

Bank/Building Society Account Number

Bank/Building Society Sort Code

Reference number (Office use only)

Service User Number

For GMB official use only. This is not part of the instruction to your Bank/Building Society.
If your A/C number is not available fill in your address below.

Instructions to your Bank or Building Society.
Please pay GMB Direct Debits from the account detailed in this instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this instruction may remain with GMB and, if so, details will be passed electronically to my Bank/Building Society

Signature(s)

Date

Banks or Building Societies may not accept instructions for some types of account