

GMB

U N I O N

GMB @ Durham County Council

Welcome to the GMB Local Authority Branch February 2022 Newsletter

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This issue of the branch newsletter provides updates on the ongoing pay talks between the union and the government.

There is also a lot of useful information on how to stay safe at work during the ongoing COVID pandemic

As always, the officers and reps of the branch are here to support our members and we look forward to catching up with you in 2022.



**MAKE
WORK
SAFE**

Local Government Pay Claim 2020/2021

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Latest bulletin for local government workers: NJC BALLOT RESULTS—14/01/2022

“We would like to apologise for the delay in sending this out considering that the ballot closed on 13th December. However, as the results have been broken down by local authority, it has taken some time to analyse these which is necessary to understand the strength of feeling in different parts of the country.

We would like to thank all members who took the time to vote and for the hard work of all the reps and branches in keeping members informed and working so hard to get the ballot out.

In terms of the ballot result, we can now inform you that GMB members covered by the National Joint Council for Local Government have rejected the latest pay offer of 1.75% and have voted for industrial action with 60% of returns in favour of action. However, the turnout did not meet the legal threshold required to take industrial action on a national level although a number of branches across the country have demonstrated the level of support which does give us a range of options to escalate the dispute if further talks are not successful.

As a result of this, we will inform the employer that our members have once again overwhelmingly rejected the offer and have mandated us to seek further talks for a new and significantly improved deal.

In terms of the result, we understand that the costs of living crisis is having a major impact and we are looking for the employers to recognise this. We know that you have worked providing essential services throughout the pandemic and that you have more than demonstrated your worth in keeping this country going. As such, for you to be facing a pay rise that is significantly below inflation is not acceptable and we are concerned that your commitment to the job and to the people you support every day is simply being taken for granted.

We will inform the employers of the result and are awaiting the outcome of the ballots of our sister unions. Once we have these, we will be able to update you further “



Local government workers deserve a pay rise

GO PUBLIC

FIVE KEY PRIORITIES

- 1 Campaigning for public services funding
- 2 Challenging outsourcing and privatisation
- 3 Winning pay justice for public service workers
- 4 Celebrating the role of public service workers
- 5 Building public services fit for the future

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>> SUPPORT THIS CAMPAIGN <<

Local Government Pay Claim 2020/2021

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Members across the authority all cast their votes on the pay ballot.

Each one of them wanted to ensure their voice was heard and that they got proper recognition for all their hard work over the last year.

Make your voice heard loud and clear



**CALLING ALL LOCAL GOVERNMENT
AND SCHOOL WORKERS**

**HAVE
YOUR
SAY
ON YOUR
PAY**



[GMB.ORG.UK/PAY-JUSTICE](https://gmb.org.uk/pay-justice)

Local Government Pay Claim 2020/2021

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ACTION DAY
29TH NOVEMBER
2021

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCILLOR
ROCHELLE CHARLTON-LAINE
SUPPORTING FAIR PAY



PAY JUSTICE - NOT INJUSTICE

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ACTION DAY
29TH NOVEMBER
2021

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCILLOR
MARION WILSON
SUPPORTING FAIR PAY



PAY JUSTICE - NOT INJUSTICE

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ACTION DAY
29TH NOVEMBER
2021

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCILLOR
JULIE GRIFFITHS
SUPPORTING FAIR PAY



PAY JUSTICE - NOT INJUSTICE

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ACTION DAY
29TH NOVEMBER
2021

SEAHAM TOWN COUNCILLOR
ROBERT LOWERY
SUPPORTING FAIR PAY



PAY JUSTICE - NOT INJUSTICE

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ACTION DAY
29TH NOVEMBER
2021

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCILLOR
JOHN PURVIS
SUPPORTING FAIR PAY



PAY JUSTICE - NOT INJUSTICE

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ACTION DAY
29TH NOVEMBER
2021

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCILLOR
KARAN BATEY
SUPPORTING FAIR PAY



PAY JUSTICE - NOT INJUSTICE



COVID-19 Support

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With all of the UK under even tighter restrictions due to COVID-19, GMB is more determined than ever to ensure that our members are safe and their jobs secure.

We want to see our workplaces remain safe for members to return to and our National website has a large amount of useful information.

<https://www.gmb.org.uk/get-it-right-coronavirus-hub>

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[My GMB](#)

[Join](#)

↓ A COVID-secure workplace ↓



It's important your employer gets it right and ensures that your workplace is safe. Use the information and guidance below to ensure this happens.

Risk Assessments



Risk Assessment Guide

[View now](#)



Checklist

[View now](#)

Additional Information



BAME

[View now](#)



Older

[View now](#)



Pregnant workers

[View now](#)

COVID-19 Support

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The site also contains useful information regarding COVID-19 guidelines and protective equipment.

<https://www.gmb.org.uk/get-it-right-coronavirus-hub>

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Issues to be addressed



Face coverings

[View now](#)



Social distancing

[View now](#)



Hand washing

[View now](#)



Screening & isolation

[View now](#)



Safe systems of work

[View now](#)



PPE

[View now](#)



Vaccination

[View now](#)

Make Schools Safe Campaign

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GMB, the union for school support staff, has branded new covid safety measures for schools 'too little too late'.

Ahead of the start of the spring term today [4 January 2022] GMB and other education unions called for urgent additional mitigation measures to be introduced to help keep staff and pupils safe and to ensure schools can stay open.

In response, the Government recommended face coverings be worn by pupils and staff in secondary schools, announced 7,000 air cleaning units to be rolled out to classrooms across the country and Ofsted inspection changes.

Avril Chambers, GMB National Officer, said:

"While GMB welcomes these changes, they clearly fall short of what we were asking for.



"Once again it is another knee jerk reaction by a shambolic Government.

"It is too little, too late.

"Rolling out 7,000 air cleaning units when there are more than 300,000 classrooms across the country is completely inadequate.

"We need proper risk assessments in all schools, while secondary schools may need a staggered start for the new term to ensure every pupil is tested on site.

"GMB urges all employers to permit staff who are clinically extremely vulnerable and pregnant women to work from home.

"We expect serious staff shortages in schools during this wave of the pandemic. School support staff have kept our schools open through the pandemic and shouldn't be expected to pick up the slack once again."

New Regional Secretary / Branch Mailing List

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NORTHERN
REGION

The branch would like to give a warm welcome to our new, first female, Regional Secretary, Hazel Nolan, who looks after the GMB Northern Region in Newcastle.

We look forward to working closely with Hazel in supporting members across the region.

The branch are keen to ensure that our members are always kept up to date

We are constantly updating our social media feeds, website and Bulletin Board notices with the latest news and events

We currently have a mailing list for internal and external members to receive information on our Social Events.

If you would like to be added to this then please contact the branch with your email address and we will add you to our list.



Social Events 2022

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The branch is hoping that we will be able to hold some of our social events this year if the relaxation of restrictions allow.

We will keep members informed via our mailing list, Bulletin Board and our branch website

<https://durhamgmb.info/>



Raffle Winners

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As we have been unable to hold any social events due to the ongoing pandemic, the branch has been entering all members into a weekly raffle with a variety of prizes.

Below are some of our lucky winners so far!



And the
Winners
are...



Benefits & Services

GMB

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Everyone knows that GMB offer support and representation for our members at work, but we also offer all sorts of additional benefits and services.



£20 off at Butlin's resorts

[Find out more](#)



20% off National Express

[Get discount](#)



**Big savings on Fred. Olsen
Cruise Lines**

[Get discount](#)



**Save up to 15% on airport
parking**

[Get discount](#)



**Save up to 10% on airport
hotel & parking packages**

[Get discount](#)



**Up to 40% off ODEON
tickets**

[Get discount](#)



**Up to 40% off Showcase
tickets**

[Get discount](#)



**Up to 40% off cinemas
nationwide!**

[Get discount](#)



**Up to 40% off EMPIRE
tickets**

[Get discount](#)

Benefits & Services

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Get up to 41% off at The Dungeons

[Get discount](#)



Up to 48% off at LEGOLAND Windsor

[Get discount](#)



Save 40% at DreamWorks Tours Shrek's Adventure

[Get discount](#)



Great discounts on Blackpool Attractions

[Get discount](#)



Up to 30% discount off Bear Grylls Adventure

[Get discount](#)



Up to 30% off at Madame Tussauds London and Blackpool

[Get discount](#)



Theme park short breaks

[Find out more](#)



Up to 40% off at LEGOLAND Discovery Centre

[Get discount](#)

Benefits & Services

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Lighthouse Financial Advice

[Find out more](#)



Car Insurance discount with LV=

[Get discount](#)



GMB Protect Insurance

[Find out more](#)



GMB Dental Plan

[Find out more](#)



UIA Mutual Home Insurance discount

[Find out more](#)



UIA Mutual Travel Insurance discount

[Find out more](#)



10% discount on Gadget Insurance

[Find out more](#)



Save up to 10% on Haven holidays

[Find out more](#)



Discounts off the UK's top attractions and theme parks

[Find out more](#)

More details on all these offers can be found on our branch website.

durhamgmb.info

Benefits & Services

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**Save up to 15% with APH –
Airport Parking & Hotels**

[Find out more](#)



**Car Insurance discount
with LV=**

[Get discount](#)



**Save on glasses and eye
tests at Vision Express**

[Find out more](#)



**One month FREE Readly
trial**

[Get offer](#)



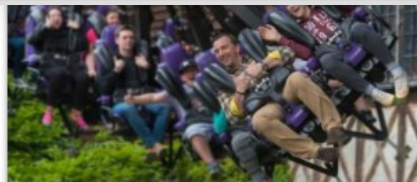
Up to 20% off at Dell

[Get discount](#)



**Up to 51% off discount at
THORPE PARK**

[Get discount](#)



**Up to 50% off Chessington
World of Adventure Resort**

[Get discount](#)



**Get up to 49% off at Alton
Towers**

[Get discount](#)



**Up to 49% discount off
Warwick Castle**

[Get discount](#)



**Get up to 43% discount at
SEA LIFE**

[Get discount](#)



**Up to 24% discount off
lastminute.com London
Eye**

[Get discount](#)

Social Media

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The branch prides itself on providing the best possible service to our members and we have a variety of social media platforms to ensure members can access all the information they need.



@durhamgmb



@GMBDurham



@durhamgmb



Or visit our branch website

www.durhamgmb.info

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.
Call us on 03000 268135
or email: gmb@durham.gov.uk

Are your contact details correct?



**Your
Contact
Details**

Please make sure your contact details are correct with the branch so that you don't miss out on any important information or ballots.

Call us on 03000 268135
or email: gmb@durham.gov.uk

Application Form (Direct Debit)

GMB
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Join  now for protection, support and advice.

Hand this form to your local GMB representative, or seal it and put it in the post (you do not need a stamp). Questions? Email us at info@gmb.org.uk or visit our website: www.gmb.org.uk where you can also join instantly.

PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS

SIGN WHERE YOU SEE THE **X**s

TELL US ABOUT YOU. This will help us do the best possible job for you.

Forename		Home address	Work address
Surname			
Title	Date of Birth	Postcode	Postcode
Mr Mrs Miss Ms Mx			
Home phone number		Email address	Job title
Mobile number		Employer	Hours a week

THE IMPORTANT BITS. Please authorise the Direct Debit.

 Instruction to your Bank or Building Society to pay by Direct Debit Please fill in the form and send back to FREEPOST GMB		
Name & full postal address of Bank/Building Society		Service User Number
To the Manager of Bank/Building Society Address: Postcode:		8 7 4 3 2 0
Name(s) of account holder(s)		Reference (FOR GMB USE ONLY)
Account number		Sort code
Signature(s) X		Date
Instruction 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 & if so, details will be passed electronically to my Bank/Building Society.		
Banks/Building Societies may not accept Direct Debit instructions for some types of account.		

PAYMENT DATE. Please select a payment date.

If you are paid monthly ☐ 1st ☐ 8th ☐ 15th ☐ 22nd ☐ Last day of the month* OR if you are paid 4 weekly ☐ 1st Friday ☐ 2nd Friday ☐ 3rd Friday ☐ 4th Friday
* or next working day

STAYING IN TOUCH. We want to make it as easy as possible to talk to each other.

GMB contacts members by email, phone and SMS about issues related to membership, membership services and campaigns.

Tick if you DO NOT wish to be contacted by: ☐ Email ☐ Phone ☐ SMS

GMB has a political fund to pay for political campaigning, which you can opt-in to for 1p a week. In the past, the fund has helped win rights such as the minimum wage and maternity leave. There will be no detriment to you if you do not opt-in.

Do you want to opt-in to the political fund? ☐ YES ☐ NO

AND JOIN. I agree to abide by GMB rules.

Signed **X**

Date

Welcome to the GMB Union family!

To read the GMB rulebook please visit www.gmb.org.uk/rules For our privacy policy go to www.gmb.org.uk/your-privacy
You can change your contact preferences at any time by logging into your MyGMB area at www.gmb.org.uk/mygmb

FOR GMB
USE ONLY

Section Branch Membership number Join date

Application Form (Check-Off)

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Join  now for protection, support and advice.

Hand this form to your local GMB representative, or seal it and put it in the post (you do not need a stamp). Questions? Email us at info@gmb.org.uk or visit our website: www.gmb.org.uk where you can also join instantly.

PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS

SIGN WHERE YOU SEE THE 

TELL US ABOUT YOU. This will help us do the best possible job for you.

Forename <input type="text"/>	Home address <input type="text"/>	Work address <input type="text"/>
Surname <input type="text"/>		
Title Ms Miss Mr Mx Mr	Date of Birth <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	Postcode <input type="text"/>
Home phone number <input type="text"/>	Email address <input type="text"/>	Job title <input type="text"/>
Mobile number <input type="text"/>	Employer <input type="text"/>	Hours a week <input type="text"/>

THE IMPORTANT BITS. Please authorise us to take your fees from your wages.

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 GMB from time to time.

Pay number

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

Signature(s)



Date

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Do you want to opt-in to the political fund? ☐ YES ☐ NO

AND JOIN. I agree to abide by GMB rules.

Signed 

Date

To read the GMB rulebook please visit www.gmb.org.uk/rules For our privacy policy go to www.gmb.org.uk/your-privacy

You can change your contact preferences at any time by logging into your MyGMB area at www.gmb.org.uk/mygmb

Welcome to the GMB Union family!

FOR GMB
USE ONLY

Branch

Branch
number

Membership
number

Join
date