

**GMB**

**U N I O N**

**Local Government and School Support Staff say**

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Dear GMB Member,

I am getting in touch with the latest information on pay.

You'll be aware that the National Joint Council (NJC) made an offer for 2023/24 to people working in areas that follow NJC Pay across the country - in Durham this includes the Council, Schools and Academies. Your union, GMB, was clear that this fell well short of what members needed, especially at a time when the cost of living crisis and high inflation is causing so many problems.

You recently had the opportunity to vote on the NJC pay offer and the results are in. In the overall national ballot GMB members have voted to **REJECT** the pay offer. However, whilst analysing the ballot results, the main rejection came from schools and academies.

The message from members is clear – We're Worth More.

The pay offer must improve, and the government has to step up. They are the ones who provide the money to councils and schools, and they need to start repairing the damage that has been done through years of cuts and underfunding.

The next step is to consider which areas we may ballot further. It is likely that an industrial action ballot will be carried out for members in schools and academies where the rejection of the pay offer was high. At present we are not intending to ballot members who work for Durham County Council, but will keep you updated on this should there be any change.

Julie Wynn  
Regional Organiser

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