

Durham Local Government UNISON Bulletin

14 December 2016

Schools Edition

Joint Statement

Following negotiations between UNISON and Durham County Council, positive and productive talks are continuing between recognised trade unions and the Council, and a full review of the role and responsibilities of Durham teaching assistants is now underway.

It is important to properly examine aspects of the employment of teaching assistants, including whether current job descriptions adequately describe the role.

During this review the Council has agreed to suspend the dismissal and re-engagement process, with working and pay arrangements for all affected staff remaining unchanged pending its outcome.

The review is already making progress, including ensuring appropriate and regular engagement with headteachers, governors, unions and teaching assistants.

This is a very complex situation, yet there is a clear desire that through this thorough review we find a way of resolving this dispute.

The Council and Trade Unions look forward to working together to find an appropriate way forward.

Clare Williams
Regional Secretary
UNISON Northern

John Hewitt
Corporate Director Resources
Durham County Council

PTO for a reminder regarding Strike Pay



The branch office is open:


Monday to Friday

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UNISON
the public service union

Thinking of joining, contact us in the branch or you can
join on line at www.joinunison.org

Strike Pay

Further sessions are currently being arranged for the new year. This month the following sessions are available:

All cluster meetings are 9am till 2pm.

21st December 2016

- Civic Centre, Crook. Interview Room 4 and Tele-talk room.
- Teesdale Community Resource Hub, Barnard Castle.

22nd December 2016

- Chester le Street Cricket Club (Upstairs Room).
- County Hall, Durham. Committee Room 2.

23rd December 2016

- Council Offices (Conference room 1), Green Lane, Spennymoor.
- Shotton Hall Banqueting Suites, Council Chamber.

What do I need to bring?

In order to access this support you will need to bring your **payslips for November and December**. December's payslip will show the deduction arising from industrial action and November's payslip will be used to confirm the loss.

Payments will be administered through a direct transfer to your account. Please could you therefore bring your bank account number, sort code and account name. This will be held securely and used for the transfers. The information will only be held to as long as it is required and then deleted. A small number of cheques will be available if you would prefer to receive support in this way.

If you pay your UNISON subs via Direct Debit, you will also need to bring proof of current membership i.e. your most recent bank statement or membership number.

If there are exceptional hardship circumstances that mean you need access to hardship support more urgently, please email the branch office as soon as possible.

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