



Notts UNISON News

Notts UNISON, 47 Loughborough Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 7LA
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November 2018

UNITARY STATUS

The Notts County UNISON branch committee have voted unanimously to campaign against the County Councils proposals to have a single unitary Authority in Notts that would replace not only the existing County Council but also all the local District Councils. We well remember the last reorganisation between County and City 20 years ago; that took years to settle down and cost literally £100's millions. NCC is saying that £30 million would be saved if there was one authority but we believe that figure has been plucked out of thin air as no cost analysis paperwork has been produced to back up this statement. Everyone will lose should Unitary status proceed - less democracy for local residents, less services and staff in each district of the county, leading to even more under resourced services. The reason we have the present system is because over many decades it has been found to work best for our local communities - the only hindrance over recent years has been central governments continued reduction in funding of local councils. That is by far the major contributing factor to the problems we face, not inefficient services. It is purely and simply down to massive underfunding by the government. Notts County Council would be better served campaigning alongside District councils and local trade unions to demand that central government properly fund local communities and their locally elected councils.

Lobby against Unitary status proposals - Keep our local councils - County Hall, West Bridgford, Thursday 13th Dec 9.30 - 10.30am

UNISON and other local trade unions have organised a lobby at County Hall on 13th December in protest at the County Councils plans for one Unitary Authority to cover all of Nottinghamshire. This will remove all local democratic accountability and create a huge faceless organisation - even more local services will disappear or be sold off to private investors with a complete lack of regard for the needs of local communities. Enough is enough! **Come along and support our lobby.**

Disabilities event

Come and learn about Disability Discrimination

**Tuesday 4th December
12.30pm – 2.00pm Rufford Suite
County Hall West Bridgford**

What is a disability?

What is an act of discrimination?

Come along and learn about disability and the Equality Act, hear our expert speakers and there will be time for questions after the discussion.

It'll be informal but informative and there will be a free buffet lunch. This is an open event for all members of the branch.

Will we see you in November?.....

UNISON branch activists will be out and about throughout November with campaign stalls arranged at all the major workplaces and local libraries. Come along and let us know your thoughts on whats happening in your workplace. **There's also a big prize draw - see back page for details.**

Mon 12th Nov -

Meadow House, Mansfield 10.00am-12noon
Mansfield Library 11.00am-12noon
Mercury House, Annesley, 12.30pm-2.00pm

Tues 13th Nov

Lawn View House, Ashfield 10.00am-12noon
Sir John Robinson Way, Arnold 12.30pm-2.00pm
Workshop Library 2.00pm-3.00pm

Wed 14th Nov

West Bridgford Library 9.00am-10.00am
County Hall 10.00am-12noon
Trent Bridge House 12.30pm-2.00pm
Beeston Library 12.30pm-12.45pm

Thurs 15th Nov

Arnold Library 9.30am-10.30am
Meadow House, Mansfield 10.00am-12noon
Sherwood Energy Village, Ollerton 12.30pm-2.00pm



IMPORTANT NOTICE: ELECTION OF STEWARD

To serve the interests of our members effectively, Notts UNISON needs to be well organised and ensuring this is the responsibility of all members of the Branch.

To be well organised we need to have Stewards in all workplaces. Stewards are volunteers who are prepared to devote some of their time to helping provide us with a UNISON Branch able to represent us and act effectively on our behalf.

Are you willing to help the Branch and its members, including yourself, by becoming a Steward?

WHAT IT WILL INVOLVE

A basic duty of a Steward is to ensure that all members in your "constituency" receive UNISON literature (such as the Branch Newsletter and notices of meetings) regularly. It also involves helping any of your members who have problems at work, either by giving advice yourself (obtained through training and experience), obtaining advice from others on their behalf or (with more complex problems) in passing them on to a more experienced Officer or Steward.

Stewards are also encouraged to attend Stewards' Meetings to discuss service conditions matters in their Department or sector. These meetings are usually every month and, in most Departments, in work time. Stewards are also asked to ensure that their Department is represented at meetings of the Branch Committee which take place every six weeks, to discuss Branch policies and activities. The Steward also plays an important role in approaching new members of staff to join UNISON.

TIME AND TRAINING

Under Agreements with the County Council and other employers, many of the duties of a Steward can be undertaken during working time. The Branch provides training for all new Stewards and, again, under the Agreement with employers such training takes place in work time, with full pay guaranteed.

Think about it! Maybe you or someone in your workplace is interested? There is a nomination form below and this should be completed and returned to the Branch Office,

NOMINATION FORM FOR UNISON STEWARD

NAME: _____ DEPARTMENT/EMPLOYER (IF NOT NCC): _____

JOB TITLE: (eg Technician/SW/Cleaner) _____

WORKPLACE: (give full address, including postcode) _____

TEL NO: _____ MOBILE: _____ EMAIL: _____

HOME ADDRESS: _____

TEL NO: _____ MOBILE: _____ EMAIL: _____

SIGNATURE OF PROPOSER: _____ SIGNATURE OF SECONDER: _____

(PRINT NAME & MEMBERSHIP NO) _____ (PRINT NAME & MEMBERSHIP NO) _____

I CONSENT TO THE ABOVE NOMINATION AND WISH TO STAND FOR ELECTION:

SIGNATURE _____ DATE: _____

Please return to: Notts UNISON, FREEPOST, Nottingham NG2 1BR

Branch Officers Elections

The branch officer posts within the branch are due to be elected once again at the end of the year. The period of office runs from 1st January to 31st December. The posts up for election are as follows:-

Chair
Secretary
Service Conditions Officer
Treasurer
Equalities officer
Education officer
Life Long Learning Co-ordinator

Vice Chair
Assistant Secretary
Communications Officer
Assistant Treasurer
International Officer
Welfare Officers (2 posts)
Health & Safety officer

The posts are open to all members so if you are interested in any of the posts full descriptions are available upon request from the branch office (details on front page). If you do decide to stand for a post you need to complete and return the nomination form below and this needs to be signed by a proposer and a seconder who must also be members of the branch. **The closing date for receipt of nominations is 12 noon on Friday 7th December**



NAME: _____ DEPARTMENT/EMPLOYER (IF NOT NCC): _____

WORKPLACE: (give full address, including postcode) _____

I CONSENT TO THE ABOVE NOMINATION FOR THE POST OF:- _____
AND WISH TO STAND FOR ELECTION:

SIGNATURE _____ DATE: _____

SIGNATURE OF PROPOSER: _____ SIGNATURE OF SECONDER: _____

(PRINT NAME & MEMBERSHIP NO) _____ (PRINT NAME & MEMBERSHIP NO) _____

Please return to: Notts UNISON, FREEPOST, Nottingham NG2 1BR





in the East Midlands

Celebrate 25 years of UNISON

Join or update your details this November to enter our member prize draw

We have **25 x £50 gift voucher packs** to win

5 x prizes will be available to win for members with branches based in **EACH** of these counties: Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire, Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire & Rutland

Existing members can enter by updating your membership at: www.unison.org.uk/my-unison
(if your details are already up to date then just edit and save)

New members join online at www.joinunison.org to be automatically entered or complete a joining form

TERMS AND CONDITIONS: TO QUALIFY YOU MUST BE A MEMBER OF A UNISON EAST MIDLANDS BRANCH, AND UPDATE YOUR DETAILS OR APPLY TO JOIN BETWEEN 01/11/2018 AND MIDNIGHT 30/11/2018
Winners will be contacted by 15 December 2018

5 top reasons to join this November

ESSENTIAL COVER FOR YOU AT WORK
Join UNISON 0800 171 2193



Access to FREE training and courses and learning grants



Local branches for advice and representation on work related issues



UNISON Direct phone service for general member advice



Legal services (after 4 weeks of membership, terms apply) including a FREE will



Discounts on holidays, Insurance and more...