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Issue Number 08

Members reject LGA pay offer

UNISON's membership consultation on the Local Government Association's (LGA) pay offer for 2016 – 18 has now ended and yesterday the UNISON NJC Committee met at length to consider the responses.

UNISON members rejected the LGA's offer, with nearly two thirds – 64% - voting to reject and 35% voting to accept it. (1% of ballot papers were spoiled.)

In light of the rejection of the LGA's pay offer, UNISON will be seeking further discussions with the employers in a bid to break the deadlock over pay and seek to get a new offer on the table.

After a long discussion, the UNISON NJC Committee also agreed to seek permission from UNISON's Industrial Action Committee to ballot for all-out strike action.

The NJC Committee recognises the redundancies, financial pressures and cuts to terms and conditions which members are facing, but believes that the consultation gives us a mandate for an industrial action ballot.

The Committee acknowledged the importance of unity between the three NJC trade unions at this time and the fact that Unite and GMB are still consulting their members. It was recognised that the position of the other two unions will need to be taken into account in any decisions taken. Unite's consultation ends on 26 February and GMB's in mid-March. Both unions have been informed of UNISON's position.

Recruit and organise

It is crucial that we now recruit more stewards and members to UNISON. We will need strong support for any industrial action. Tell your workmates that they have to be 'in it to win it' and get them to join us.