



SEASON'S GREETINGS FROM BROMLEY UNISON BRANCH



Dec 2017

UNISON Workplace Reps

Have you thought about becoming a UNISON workplace Rep?

Full training and support is available. Contact the branch for more details.

We are always looking to increase our numbers of workplace contacts, stewards and reps within the Bromley Unison LG Branch.

Our volunteer reps provide an extremely important function within their own workplaces and within our wider branch, offering much needed advice and support to our UNISON members.

Full training, mentoring and support available. Training courses are accredited by UNISON and the TUC.

Dear Member,

At this point in the year we can take the time to appreciate our achievements so far but most importantly to look forward to plans for the coming year.

The Bromley UNISON Branch is now settled in its new premises at TMS House in Orpington and we have an appointed Caseworker & Organiser to support members.

For 2018 we want a strong union and in Bromley we want the members to set the agenda. The branch will be relying on you to keep us informed of issues in your workplace.

On behalf of the Branch may we take this opportunity to wish you Season Greetings. We look forward to working with you as we face the challenges ahead in 2018.

The bigger the membership the louder our voice will be so please make every effort to speak to your colleagues and encourage them to join UNISON today!

The Branch Office will be closed from 12:00pm on 22nd December 2017 and will re-open on the 2nd January 2018

For urgent queries over this period please call

UNISON Direct 0800 0 857 857

Local Pay Claim - LB Bromley for 2017/18

UNISON, UNITE and the GMB are currently working on this year's LBB local pay claim.

Full Details are available on the branch website. www.bromleyunison.org

Meeting our claim would give the London Borough of Bromley the opportunity to demonstrate its commitment to creating a workforce which is well paid and high in morale and productivity. We believe the claim to be both affordable and realistic.

- 5% increase on all salary points and allowances to make up for years of pay restraint under the government's Austerity Agenda
- An additional increase in pay rates for staff at the bottom pay scales to bring them up to the London Living Wage as a minimum (£9.75/hr in 2017, rising to £10.20/hr in early 2018)
- A review of training and CPD opportunities across the organisation
- Consideration of annual leave entitlements
- A review of family friendly policies, in particular their Parental Leave entitlements
- Greater fairness and transparency in the awarding of bonuses and rewards
- Greater emphasis on the benefits available to employees through the Employee Assistance Programme

UNISON Bromley AGM will be held on

Monday 19th March 2018 at 5.15pm

**Meeting Room, Orpington Village Hall, 311 High Street,
Orpington, Kent, BR6 0NN**

Are you a Retired member?

Did you know Bromley UNISON has an active retired members group?

Our Retired Members Officers Geoff and Bob, would like encourage retired members to get in touch via the branch office.

The branch is run by a group of volunteer officers who are elected annually by the branch membership. If any member wishes to stand for a branch officer position, a nomination form will need to be completed and supported by two other branch members. The deadline for receipt of nomination forms is **5pm on 29th January 2018**.

**Full details on the branch website -
www.bromleyunison.org**

Bromley Schools

What has the branch been doing?

Bromley's growing Multi Academy Schools Trusts (MATs) - this year some of the smaller academies have continued to convert into increasingly large trusts in a bid to generate additional income.

There are now only seven schools which are not academies left in Bromley! The newest academies include the following schools, which have joined the NEXUS MAT:

Alexandra Junior, Highfield Infant and Highfield Junior Schools, Manor Oak, Perry Hall and Pickhurst Primary Schools.

Two community schools have joined other trusts - Churchfields Primary School to Quality First Education Trust, and Blenheim Primary School to the Education for the 21st Century (Trust).

Bromley Road Primary, Hillside Primary and The Priory School in Orpington have all joined the Harris Federation over the past academic year.

Hawes Down Infant & Junior Schools have amalgamated to form a new primary school within the Langley Park Academies, which Langley Park Boys School is also proposing to join soon.

There have also recently been several restructures within Bromley's Multi Academy Trusts schools, particularly affecting office and finance support staff. It's now more important than it ever was for school support staff to become active union members, and Unison will be working, along with other schools' unions, to gain formal recognition agreements with the MAT's not already covered by existing agreements.

Regional Council Delegates for 2018

We are looking for branch delegates to attend regional council meetings in 2018.

If any member is interested please contact the branch office for more details.

Written expressions of interest to be received by 5pm on 5th January 2018.

If you have any workplace queries and would like advice please contact your local steward or the branch office. You can also call UNISON Direct on 0800 0 857 857.

If you require branch representation at formal meetings please ensure that you contact us without delay.

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