

Join UNISON — your friend at work

PLEASE FILL IN THIS FORM IN BLOCK CAPITALS USING BLACK INK AND GIVE IT TO YOUR UNISON REP OR STEWARD OR POST TO UNISON FREEPOST WC5652, 1 MABLEDON PLACE, LONDON WC1H 9AJ

1. YOUR PERSONAL DETAILS

Please tick or fill in the boxes below

Mrs	Ms	Miss	Mr	Other
First name				Other initial(s)
Surname/Family name				Date of birth / /
Home address				
Postcode				

National insurance number (from your payslip)

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How would you describe your ethnic origin?

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bangladeshi | <input type="checkbox"/> Asian Other | <input type="checkbox"/> Black UK |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chinese | <input type="checkbox"/> Black African | <input type="checkbox"/> Black Other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Indian | <input type="checkbox"/> Black Caribbean | <input type="checkbox"/> White UK |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pakistani | <input type="checkbox"/> Irish | <input type="checkbox"/> White Other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asian UK | | |

Please tick this box if you require materials in a different format (eg large print or Braille) - be sure to supply contact details below

Please give a telephone number/voice/text/email address for UNISON to contact you – indicate if work or home

Contact tel/voice/text/email

2. YOUR EMPLOYMENT DETAILS

Employer's name	
Your job title/occupation	
Department/section	
Workplace name and address	
Postcode	Payroll number (from your payslip)

3. WHAT YOU WILL PAY – FROM 1 October 2003

Please tick the appropriate box for your earnings before deductions.

Weekly pay	Annual pay	YOUR SUBSCRIPTION—WHAT YOU PAY			Band
		per week	per month		
Up to £38.47	Up to £2,000	£0.30	£1.30	<input type="checkbox"/>	A
£38.48–£96.16	£2,001–£5,000	£0.81	£3.50	<input type="checkbox"/>	B
£96.17–£153.84	£5,001–£8,000	£1.22	£5.30	<input type="checkbox"/>	C
£153.85–£211.53	£8,001–£11,000	£1.52	£6.60	<input type="checkbox"/>	D
£211.54–£269.23	£11,001–£14,000	£1.81	£7.85	<input type="checkbox"/>	E
£269.24–£326.92	£14,001–£17,000	£2.24	£9.70	<input type="checkbox"/>	F
£326.93–£384.61	£17,001–£20,000	£2.65	£11.50	<input type="checkbox"/>	G
£384.62–£480.76	£20,001–£25,000	£3.23	£14.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	H
£480.77–£576.92	£25,001–£30,000	£3.98	£17.25	<input type="checkbox"/>	I
£576.93–£673.08	£30,001–£35,000	£4.68	£20.30	<input type="checkbox"/>	J
£673.08+	over £35,000	£5.19	£22.50	<input type="checkbox"/>	K

Please tick the appropriate box to indicate how often you are paid

- Weekly
 Fortnightly
 Four Weekly
 Monthly

Please tick this box if you are a student member in full-time education (including student nurses or Modern Apprentices). Your subscription is £10 per year.

4. POLITICAL FUND

UNISON's Affiliated Political Fund (APF) is used to campaign for and promote UNISON policy and the need for quality public services within the Labour Party, locally and nationally, in Parliament and Europe. UNISON APF affiliates to the Labour Party.

UNISON's General Political Fund (GPF) is used to pay for campaigning at branch, regional and national levels of the union and for research and lobbying in Parliament and Europe. It is independent of support for any political party.

It is important that you indicate a choice of fund by ticking one of the boxes below.

Your subscription shown above includes a political fund payment so you do not pay any more by being in one of the funds.

5. YOUR AUTHORISATION

- I wish to join UNISON and accept its rules and constitution.
- I authorise deduction of UNISON subscriptions from my salary/wages at the rate determined by UNISON in accordance with its rules to be paid over to them on my behalf and I authorise my employer to provide information to UNISON to keep my records up to date.
- I authorise deduction of the following Political Fund payment as part of my subscription: tick one box only

- Affiliated Political Fund General Political Fund

Now please sign and date below

Signature

--

Date

--

OTHER WAYS TO PAY

direct debit cheque

If you have been a member of a trade union before, please state which one:

DATA PROTECTION

UNISON will process your membership information together with other information for administration, statistical analysis, conducting ballots and other statutory requirement purposes.

We may also send you newsletters, journals and surveys and let you know about educational and campaigning matters. We will disclose your information to our service providers and agents for these purposes.

- If you do not want any mailings from UNISON besides those required by statute as shown in bold above, please tick this box.

We may share your information with organisations with whom we have a business relationship for your benefit. We, or they, may contact you by mail, telephone, SMS, fax or e-mail to let you know about goods, services or promotions which we think may be of interest to you.

- If you do not wish to receive such information please tick this box.



What you need to know about your pension

Are you a member of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) or know someone else who is?

From October 2006, anyone under 53 faces having to work on to 65 before getting a full pension, no matter how long you have worked and paid into the scheme.

But other public service workers have had their pensions protected by the government. Why not members of the LGPS?

Now UNISON is fighting to protect your pensions – and we need your help.

These proposals don't only affect people working in local government, but also in housing associations, higher and further education, the police, fire and rescue services, Scottish Water, Scottish national agencies, the Meat Hygiene Service, Careers Scotland, in some private companies and the community and voluntary sector. **If this includes you – read on!**

What are the government and English employers up to?

At the start of 2005 UNISON promised industrial action and defeated government plans to cut the LGPS. Now John Prescott, the deputy prime minister, is under pressure from the Tory-led Local Government Association and the plans are back.

We can win again.

The government has already conceded that existing members of the uniformed police, armed forces, NHS, civil service and teachers' pension schemes should have their pension age of 60 and pension benefits protected.

And in tough negotiations on the LGPS since September, UNISON has already forced the Local Government Association in England, and the UK

government to back down on a proposed 1% increase in employee subscriptions and from raising the minimum pension age from 50 to 55.

At the heart of government plans – as in early 2005 – is a threat to remove the rule allowing people whose age plus years of service equal 85 or over to retire on a full pension. (They claim this is "age discrimination".)

This won't just affect new members of the scheme - only existing LGPS members who qualify for the rule and reach the age of 60 before 31 March 2013 (ie who are 53 or over in 2006) will still get the benefits we have all been paying for.

In Scotland the Executive has said it intends to follow Westminster and abolish the 'Rule of 85', despite the opposition of the Scottish Employers and the EU's statement that it is not necessary.

What does UNISON say?

We believe LGPS members should be treated fairly and our pensions protected like those of other public service workers.

Classroom assistants deserve the same treatment as teachers, police staff are no less deserving than police officers and meat hygiene inspectors ensure people's health in the same way as NHS workers.

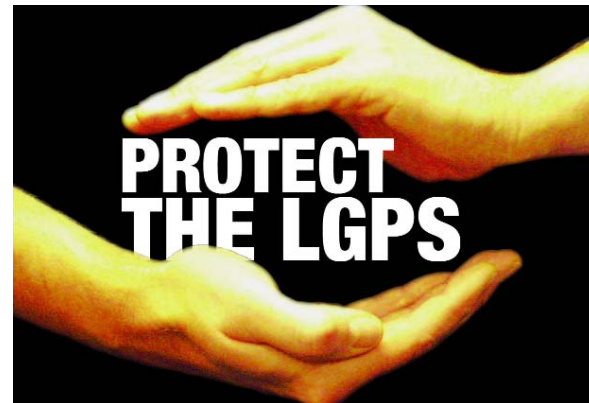
Members of the LGPS are being discriminated against.

What's more these changes will make it even harder for public services to recruit and retain staff and improve services.

What are we planning?

UNISON will use the law to challenge the draft regulations if possible. We are also planning a campaign of industrial action if that fails.

We want as many LGPS members and branches to write to their MSP and MP and we will be using the media to bolster our case.



What can you do?

- Find out about your existing pension scheme and entitlement
- Get involved in local campaigning – contact your local UNISON rep or pension contact: call UNISONdirect on 0845 355 0845* now if you don't know how.
- Visit unison.org.uk/pensions or unison-scotland.org.uk/pensions now for news and campaign info or call UNISONdirect as above.
- Join UNISON now using the form overleaf
- Involve your workmates - ask your UNISON rep for copies of this leaflet.
- Email or write to your MSP, Use the draft letters on the UNISONScotland website.
- If it comes to an Industrial action ballot - Vote YES

*Textphone users call 0800 0 967 968. Lines open from 6am to midnight, Monday – Friday and 9am to 4pm Saturday.

UNISON – your friend at work

As a member of UNISON you get unrivalled support at work, access to education and a host of other benefits. Together we are stronger and can protect our pay and pensions.

If you are not a member fill in the form overleaf and return it to:

Or post it to:

**UNISON
FREEPOST
(WC5652)
London WC1H**

UNISON