



Campaign for a Fair Deal for Support Staff  
[www.birminghamuniunison.org.uk](http://www.birminghamuniunison.org.uk)  
Strike Bulletin Two

# As momentum builds.... **All Out On STRIKE**

# **Thursday 16th January**

## **First joint strike action by UNISON and UNITE**

The strike will be the first joint strike by UNISON and UNITE at the University, showing the depth of discontent over the real terms pay cuts every year for staff. The strike will see members from both trade unions united together in the fight for a fair pay deal and the Living Wage.

## **Students are backing staff taking strike action**

Despite term only just starting students have been speaking out in support. Guild Vice President for Education Hattie Craig said,

*“It is outrageous that an institution whose Vice Chancellor has the highest basic salary of any university in the country (£400K) is still not paying its frontline staff a living wage.”* [more quotes on our website](#)

**Vice Chancellor Pay Rise £28,000 per year. You 1% Strike for Fair Pay for all**

**Strike for a Living Wage**

# **Join the Protests on the Day of the Strike**

We want to have fun, peaceful protests that get across a serious message on the day and show the University that we are serious about winning a fair deal for staff and help us get our message across to students and the Public.

**Please come to the following entrances at 7.30am or as soon as you can**

**A UNISON branch officer will be in charge of each entrance**

**We will be providing breakfast and tea and coffee. If you have any musical instruments please bring them as someone has written a few songs!!**

**University Station**

**Catering Staff, MDS**

**Grange Road Entrance (pedestrian entrance near Bristol road)**

**Cleaning staff  
Arts and Law**

**South gate (Bristol Road entrance)**

**EPS and LES**

**East Gate (By Guild of Students)**

**Social Sciences,  
Corporate Services**

**Prichatts Road entrance &**

**Library staff, Porters, security  
and stores**

**Pritchatts road car park entrance**

Not on the list? Please come to East Gate by the Guild of Students

**Additionally we are asking for volunteers to come at 5am to East Gate**

**There will be a rally 12pm with speakers from the Guild of Students, UNISON, UNITE, UCU and others. Details will be given on the day**

**Do I have to tell my manager if I will strike?**

No. You have the right **not** to tell your manager anything. Whilst managers are allowed to ask you, you are legally entitled not to answer the question. UNISON strongly recommend you say, '*I have been advised by UNISON not to answer that question.*' This is to avoid managers placing unfair pressure on you and remember the purpose of the strike is to cause as much disruption as possible

**I didn't vote for strike action do I still have to strike?**

Yes, we are a democratic trade union and the vast majority of members have voted to strike, in both the consultative and formal ballots. We now expect all members, regardless of how anyone has voted, to take part in the strike.

We also know that it is only by acting together that we can win for us all. That is how we have won on the many issues we have faced from Bank Holidays to working any 5 days in 7 and we have other important issues on the horizon.

**I'm going to struggle with my rent/mortgage/food/travel etc**

For members facing financial hardship as a result of striking your branch have set up a support fund. This will be used to support members who may have financial problems. We will make payments within 2 days of receiving an application form with a payslip showing the amount deducted. Please contact Matt Raine, Lee Crutchley or Abby Gulliver for more information. All information will be dealt with sensitively and in strict confidence.

*Branch officers will have hardship forms on the day of the strike and will be happy to help fill out the form. It is also on our branch website.*

**Can I lose my job if I strike?**

No, it is illegal for the University to dismiss anyone for taking legal strike action.

**If you have any questions please contact Matt Raine on matthewraine@outlook.com or call 07904 960 442 or any UNISON rep. He is happy to speak in the evening as well**