



NOTTINGHAM CITY **HOMES** **NEWSLETTER**

Nottingham City



Fighting to defend
jobs & services

Issue 1 – Sept 2010

Here it is..... At long last..... The very first newsletter for UNISON members in NCH!! I hope you find it informative and look forward to any feedback you may have.

It is our intention to write a newsletter bi-monthly after the Housing Operations Trade Union meetings that take place with the Director and Assistant Directors of Housing. This is the forum for us to raise any issues UNISON members may have that you would like us to raise. The next meeting is Monday 11th October 2010. If there is anything you wish to raise please contact Debi or Carol.

Pay Freeze

Local government unions UNISON, GMB and UNITE have registered a formal dispute with the Local Government Employers (LGE) over three measures that will have a detrimental impact on our members providing local services.

The LGE is maintaining a pay freeze, refusing to pay the £250 that the chancellor announced would be paid to those earning less than £21,000, and issuing a document, *Reducing Workforce Costs*, to councils.

The document suggests that councils try to reduce pay and conditions through local deals that would undermine *Green Book* conditions, while also thinking about using 'interns' and volunteers to provide services.

UNISON Head of local government Heather Wakefield said: "We have registered a dispute to make it clear to the employers that we do not go along with any of their responses to the coalition's cuts. We will be seeking arbitration." "We are not proposing to ballot members over any form of industrial actions at this point."

Sheltered Housing & TEM

The whole of sheltered housing and TEM is undergoing a major review and this has been ongoing for some considerable length of time and won't finish anytime soon! This has come as a result of efficiency savings, cuts to the Supporting People funding and also as a result of recent incidents that took place at Nottingham On Call. NCH are also looking at possible de-designation of some sheltered scheme that have low uptake into general purpose stock. There may also be a need in the future to roll out warden services to the wider community.

STEWARDS

Senior Representative

Carol Brodrick

UNISON Office
0115 9150325
07944214101

Full Time Rep

Debi Maddocks

UNISON Office
0115 9150325
07818145097

Stewards

Lynn Cattliff

Iselyn Warner

Elizabeth Kirk

Denise Birch

If you need representation or support please contact Debi or Carol.

Branch Office

**4-6 Perth Street
Nottingham
NG1 3LU**

**Tel: 9156883
Fax: 9156889**

Cashiers/Ceasing of cash collection

The consultation period has now ended and the office closures have begun. Lenton and Bilborough Housing Offices are now closed. All staff have either been 'slotted in' to the new post of Cashier/Customer Service Assistant or have been redeployed elsewhere in the Company.

At the beginning of the consultation NCH were looking for 9 people for the post of Cashier/Customer Service Assistants but, due to individual circumstances the decision has been made to retain and 'slot-in' over 10 staff, for the time being. There were no redundancies.

START Team

For over two years now the START team at Barrasford House have been awaiting TUPE transfer to Framework. However, there has been no movement despite members being given various dates, all of which have come and gone to no avail. This has been a challenging time for UNISON members at the START team.

Policies and Procedures

UNISON has raised that we have in excess of 90 policies, procedures and guides in the Red Book and that our members may easily fall foul of them but may be unaware of their existence. These policies also contain information that may be of benefit to members. We have suggested that this is highlighted and that staff be signposted to them in Wednesday morning training sessions. Any feedback that this is taking place would be good.

Housing Patch Managers

Housing Patch Managers attended an away day to talk about their role in the company and how they would like to see it shaped going forward. Following on from that a core group of HPM's, one from each office, has been set up to continue working on their job descriptions and shaping their future role. UNISON members need to be mindful of signing up to any changes to their job description without first involving the unions as any changes that are agreed will be incredibly difficult to challenge, if we need to, after the event.

NOT A TRADE UNION MEMBER? IF NOT, WHY NOT JOIN UNISON TODAY !

BENEFITS INCLUDE:-

- * Free Will Making Service
 - * Free Legal Advice
 - * Cheaper insurance
 - * Discounted mortgages
 - * Discounted holidays at UNISON's own Croyde Bay Holiday Centre
 - * UNISON Welfare
- Plus much more visit - <http://www.unison.co.uk/benefits/>

Health & Safety Reps

Valerie Monaghan

Repairs Call Centre
0115 91522222

Dave Willetts

Duchess Gardens
0115 9153990

Debi Maddocks

UNISON office
0115 9150325

If you have any health and safety concerns, please contact a rep for advice.

Union Learner Reps

Claudine Smith

Repairs Call Centre
0115 91522222

Sally Lord

Houndsgate
0115 9157358

Learning is very important to UNISON.
Union Learner Reps

Encourage people at work to take up courses

Help to look at what training people want to do

Support people through their training

Free courses for UNISON members include:

- Communication at work course
- Return to Learn
- Women's Lives Course/Women in UNISON
- Trade Unions and the Environment
- Microsoft Word and Excel

Free taster courses with the Open University



1. YOUR PERSONAL DETAILS

Please tick or fill in boxes below

Mrs
 Ms
 Miss
 Mr
 Other

First name

Surname/Family name Date of birth

Home address

Postcode

National Insurance number (from your payslip)

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)

PLEASE RETURN YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO:
Nottingham City UNISON
 4-6 Perth Street,
 Nottingham, NG1 3LU

3. WHAT YOU PAY – CURRENT RATES (SET OCTOBER 2003)

Please tick the appropriate box for your earnings before deductions.

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

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.

Please tick the appropriate box to indicate how often you are paid
 Weekly Fortnightly Four Weekly Monthly

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.

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

The information provided by you shall be recorded by UNISON for statistical purposes and used for sending you UNISON publications, ballot forms and otherwise communicating with you. If you do NOT want any mailings from UNISON, besides those required by statute, please tick this box

To keep you fully informed of the services we arrange for members we want you to receive details of benefits offered by or in conjunction with UNISON's affinity partners. The affinity partners are organisations with close links to UNISON that share our ambition to provide you with the best possible range of benefits. Under the Data Protection legislation we can only disclose your details to our affinity partners with your explicit consent. Therefore if you WANT to receive details of the full range of benefits you **MUST** tick this box

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 (please tick if appropriate) direct debit cheque