UNISON - Local Government Service Group Executive Report.

The Service Group Executive's role is to lead & represent members within the Local Government Service in UNISON. It agrees strategies for implementing policy decisions made during conference. Local Government members in Scotland elected Billy Stewart, Katrina Baird & Maggie McGuire to be your voice on the Executive. Suzanne Gens & Brenda Aitchison also sit on the Executive from the Scottish Joint Council (SJC).





On day 1 we elected Glen Williams as chair and Amanda Brown as vice chair. Billy nominated Amanda.

Billy was elected to the Disciplinary and Appeals Committee, Devolution working Group, and Service Delivery Working Group.

Katrina was elected to Service Delivery Working Group, Pay and conditions working group, Recruitment and Organising Working Group, and National Health and Safety Committee.

Maggie was elected to Devolution Working Group, Service Delivery Working Group, Local Government pensions working group, Housing issues working group, and Equalities working group.

Susanne was supported to continue pay and Conditions Working Group, and Service Delivery working groups. Brenda was supported to continue with Devolution working group and Recruitment and Organising working group.

This was a learning curve in many ways for our newly elected representatives. Detailed preparation, networking and cooperation, ensured that Scotland will have a strong voice on the Service Group executive.

Katrina organised publicity for the violence at work campaign. The campaign was widely discussed in session, and with executive members less formally over the 2 days. We did a photo shoot with the campaign placards at the end of day 1.

Schools are central to much of UNISON campaigning in England and Cymru, it was good to share our Scottish campaign with the executive.



UNISON - Local Government Service Group Executive Report.

Solidarity was sent by the whole executive to Tom Barker, who was suspended after winning a dispute in his school! Tom is a member of our UNISON SGE and NEC. A Group video message of solidarity was sent and that fight to reinstate Tom goes on!

A similar message of solidarity was also sent to Ameen Hadi, who is currently under investigation by his employer. A clear message to the employer to drop all investigations-and stop capitulating to the far Right!

The 2nd day was focused on training sessions and workshops.

Leadership, organising and A-spec training featured. Key talking points from the Scottish local government conference, and local committee was fed into the discussion on leadership and organising.

Pay campaigns, members participation and creating a better culture in UNISON, with more regular contact and intervention at source in the workplace, legacy planning, and more strategic planning. There was also good information signposted to the executive, which is system based and technical, to take away. We have requested links for relevant systems to be sent to branches to access. If there are complications for activists using any relevant system, we would look to address those.

A-Spec training was challenging for many because it's a complicated subject. There were many supportive and informative contributions in the room.

Liz Wheatley made a good point about sexuality being respected collectively in all its forms-rather than the sexuality discussion being dominated by the individualism.

There was collective recognition of the challenges ahead with actions agreed from LG conference on funding and fair pay, tackling Reform, Migrant and Women Workers and climate change. The newly elected SGE is looking to be more relevant to its members and got off to a great start.

