



Issue 322 24th - 31st October 2021

### **Local Government Strike**

The Joint Trade unions in Local Government submitted their pay claim more than 10 months ago. That claim was made 19 months into a global pandemic which has seen them working flat delivering services that everyone has relied on. Local Government staff are essential workers and as deserving of decency and fairness in their pay settlement as anyone else. That hasn't been forthcoming.

The Joint Trade Unions have between them mandates to take action in half of Scotland's local authority areas. and have notified COSLA that industrial action notices to those authorities that they will be calling out members in school cleaning, school catering, school janitorial, waste, recycling and fleet maintenance services on the 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th November.

UNISON , and the other other Local Government Trade Unions, are calling for the Cabinet Secretaries for Finance, Local Government and Education to intervene. it is not credible for the Scottish Government to shrug their shoulders and say 'not me guv' when it is they who determine how much money councils get and tell them how to spend much of it.

More details on the dispute [here](#) and [here](#)

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### **Budget**

On Wednesday Rishi Sunak will deliver those parts of his budget that haven't already been sent out as press releases. UNISON's **pre budget submission** stressed the need to rebuild all our public services. This will only be done by securing sustained long- term investment and making money available to employ and train the right number of staff needed to ensure our services are there when we need them; Create fairer and safer workplaces where everyone is treated with dignity and respect; Build a more equal and sustainable post COVID-19 society, in which the inequalities that have become so evident during the crisis are addressed as a matter of urgency. We await The Chancellor's statement in hope, if not exactly expectation

[University of Dundee industrial action over pensions](#)

[Police staff: More needs to be done on pay](#)

## UNISON Scotland consultation response: Implementing Part 3 of the Transport (Scotland) Act 2019: Bus Services October 2021

### Climate, Jobs, Justice - Make our voices heard!



COP 26 will see trade union members from across Scotland and the world uniting to support action on climate change through a Just Transition.

General Secretary Christina McAnea will be with members in Glasgow on the trade union bloc of the COP26 Coalition march on 6 November. She and UNISON Scotland Convener Lilian Macer will also launch a new UNISON report on greening public services on Monday 8 November in Glasgow. A regular update on events can be found [here](#).

### Five ways of taking part in COP26

## Scotland's care workers *for change*

The staff shortage crisis in social care brings even more pressure on UNISON members – third sector, private sector, NHS, and local government – who have to deal with the challenges this brings.

So UNISON can better understand the issues you are dealing with delivering and arranging of care, **please fill out our survey.**



The Scottish Government are consulting on setting up a National Care Service this will oversee a comprehensive range of social care services for all ages, from infants to the elderly. As well as alcohol, drug and all social work services. As the union representing staff across all of these areas UNISON will play an important role in shaping that change. Care Futures is a series of briefings that will provide members and branches with information to help discuss and develop UNISON's approach to these reforms.



[Making legal history, every month](#)

## PICK OF THE MEDIA

22/10/21 *theguardian.com*

Stephen Smellie, deputy convenor for UNISON Scotland and chair of our Green Network explains [why the climate crisis is global, but councils can offer local solutions.](#)

22/10/21 *bbc.co.uk*

[Listen to the general secretary on Radio 4.](#)

10/10/21 *theferret.scot*

[Company which sacked workers at Xmas given COP26 contract](#)

09/10/21 *theferret.scot*

[Watchdog ruling prompts calls for Covid-19 cash transparency](#)

[There for You impact report: A colourful, engaging report setting out how much of a positive difference UNISON's charity for members has made this year.](#)



## Financial wellbeing for UNISON members

Join **[There For You](#)** on 28 September 2021 at 12:00pm–1:00pm for a free financial wellbeing webinar. Register [here](#).



Welcome to UNISON Scotland learning!

[Here is](#) our online education programme for July to December 2021. Build your skills with our national programme [UNISON Learning](#) - a whole range of courses for our members.

## Coronavirus: your rights at work

Read our Q&A



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**0800 0 857 857**

To take part in our consultations,  
surveys and ballots, we need accurate  
information: **your work, email & mobile.**

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