

GMB@Work in the Further Education Sector

SEPTEMBER 2017

It has been a while since GMB Further Education (FE) members and branches received a general communication about what is happening in the FE sector.

This newsletter aims to rectify that and represents the first of regular newsletters keeping you informed and up to date with what's happening across further education along with much more!

This issue covers latest update on FE support staff Pay 2017, organising GMB@Work in FE and a round-up of campaigning in the FE sector.

First, a re-cap on FE support staff pay.

The GMB along with FE joint trade unions submitted this years' pay and conditions claim in March. Staff in FE have now suffered a staggering real terms cut in pay of 21.5% since 2009. For many who work in colleges that have failed to implement the AoC's recommendations, they have lost more than a quarter of their pay over the same period.

Living wage covers a crucial component in the claim. Members told us that working in FE on low wages led employees to take on second jobs, take out loans to make ends meet and some even had to resort to using food banks. GMB, have established policy that they believe that the government's living wage should be set at £10 per hour. It is neither desirable nor necessary for employees in the FE sector to be paid wages that do not afford them a basic, decent standard of living.

Pay talks are at present on-going and GMB, as always, will consult FE support staff separately

The joint trade unions' pay and conditions claim for 2017/18 includes:

Cost of living claim:

- RPI, as of 1 August 2017, plus 3% on all pay points with a minimum uplift of £900
- Foundation living wage to be the minimum wage for and FE colleges to become accredited living wage employers

Workloads:

- A minimum CPD entitlement for all staff of 30 hours

Class size:

- A nationally agreed policy that specifies appropriate maximum class sizes be primarily and fundamentally based on educational considerations and not overridden by financial ones

Agency staff:

- A nationally agreed policy that specifies that agency staff should only be used for emergency cover in respect of all staffing groups

Join online at www.gmb.org.uk/join



Organising GMB@Work in Further Education

Read the GMB report 'Public Sector Pay and the Forgotten Three Million' at: <http://www.gmb.org.uk/newsroom/forgotten-three-million>

HELP END THE PINCH FOR ALL PUBLIC SECTOR STAFF:
www.paypinch.org

If you're a GMB member make sure your membership details are correct by registering with GMB on-line:
<https://www.gmb.org.uk>

Know someone who's not a member? Ask them to join GMB On-line: www.gmb.org.uk/join

Or complete the attached application form and post to:
GMB Public Services Section, 22 Stephenson Way, London. NW1 2HD

Alternative, just ring **020 7391 6700** and ask how you can join. Or email info@gmb.org.uk and ask for a form

GMB is Britain's fastest growing trade union

Campaigning in the Further Education Sector

Joint work together with the Association of Colleges (AoC) has brought the importance of FE to the attention of government and the nation.

FE is accepted across the political spectrum as being central to the UK's success in addressing the economic and skills challenges that BREXIT brings. £170 million of extra capital funding was promised to the sector in the 2016 autumn statement. Along with extra funding from 2018 for 16-19 T Levels (tech level education) rising to over £500 million per year in 2022 and beyond. Demographic increases in 16-19 students from 2018/19 will also deliver increased funding.

The government have furthermore promised increased funding for apprenticeships via the Apprenticeship Levy which commenced in May 2017.

As FE is viewed as being central to UK success in addressing the economic and skills challenges, post Brexit, besides the benefits of increased funding for apprenticeships via the apprenticeships Levy.

GMB envisage continuing joint work with the AoC in campaigning for the funding promised by government to the further education sector.

GMB furthermore through the prism of national negotiations will demand apprenticeship schemes for all college staff become an integral part of future GMB bargaining objectives.

JOIN ONLINE TODAY AT WWW.GMB.ORG.UK/JOIN

UNIONLINE
YOUR TRADE UNION LAW FIRM
0300 333 0303
www.unionline.co.uk

GMB—EXPERTS IN THE WORLD OF WORK

It can be as simple as a new manager, or a new way of working that causes you a problem at work. Guard against that day by joining GMB now. GMB membership covers you wherever you work. Only GMB members get GMB help.

IF YOU WORK YOU NEED GMB@WORK

Join now at www.gmb.org.uk/join or fill in the form below

then hand it to your local GMB representative, or post it—simply write FREEPOST GMB on an envelope—you don't need a stamp or any other address details.

If you have any questions contact GMB: email info@gmb.org.uk or visit our website www.gmb.org.uk

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|------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| FOR GMB USE ONLY | Section <input type="text"/> | Branch number <input type="text"/> | Membership number <input type="text"/> | Date of joining <input type="text"/> |
|------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|

GMB membership application form PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS

1 TELL US ABOUT YOU

| | | | |
|---|---|------------------------------------|---|
| Surname <input type="text"/> | First name <input type="text"/> | Title <input type="text"/> | Date of birth <input type="text"/> |
| Home address <input type="text"/> | Home phone number <input type="text"/> | Mobile number <input type="text"/> | |
| Postcode <input type="text"/> | Email <input type="text"/> | | |
| We ask for your ethnic origins as part of our equal opportunities policy of improving services to all members | | | |
| Bangladeshi <input type="checkbox"/> / Black African <input type="checkbox"/> / Black Caribbean <input type="checkbox"/> / Black British <input type="checkbox"/> / Chinese <input type="checkbox"/> / Indian <input type="checkbox"/> / Irish <input type="checkbox"/> / Pakistani <input type="checkbox"/> / White <input type="checkbox"/> / Other: <input type="text"/> | | | Tick here if you do not wish to contribute to the GMB collective affiliation to the Labour Party <input type="checkbox"/> |
| National Insurance number <input type="text"/> | I agree to abide by GMB rules <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Signed <input type="text"/> | Date <input type="text"/> |

2 TELL US ABOUT YOUR JOB

| | |
|---|---|
| Employer <input type="text"/> | Your job <input type="text"/> |
| Address where you work <input type="text"/> | How many hours a week do you work? <input type="text"/> |
| Postcode <input type="text"/> | Pay number <input type="text"/> |
| I authorise my employer to pass my bank details on to GMB to activate my union membership — Signed <input type="text"/> | I give my employer permission to notify GMB of any future change of address <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| | Pay date <input type="text"/> |

3 PLEASE SELECT WHEN YOU WOULD LIKE THE DIRECT DEBIT TO BE DEDUCTED FROM YOUR ACCOUNT

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|--|--|---|---|---|
| If you are paid monthly | <input type="text"/> 1st day of the month* | <input type="text"/> 8th day of the month* | <input type="text"/> 16th day of the month* | <input type="text"/> 23rd day of the month* | <input type="text"/> Last day of the month* * or next working day |
| OR if you are paid 4 weekly | <input type="text"/> 1st Friday | <input type="text"/> 2nd Friday | <input type="text"/> 3rd Friday | <input type="text"/> 4th Friday | |

4 INSTRUCTION TO YOUR BANK OR BUILDING SOCIETY TO PAY BY DIRECT DEBIT



Please fill in the form below and send to: GMB, 22 Stephenson Way, LONDON NW1 2HD

Service User Number

Name and full postal address of your Bank or Building Society branch

| | |
|--|--|
| To the Manager of <input type="text"/> | Bank/Building Society <input type="text"/> |
| Address <input type="text"/> | |
| Postcode <input type="text"/> | |

Instructions to your Bank or Building Society: Please pay GMB Direct Debits from the account detailed in this Instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this Instruction may remain with GMB and, if so, details will be passed electronically to my Bank/Building Society.

Signature(s)

Date

Name(s) of account holder(s)

Bank/Building Society account number

Bank/Building Society Sort Code

For GMB official use only. This is not part of the instruction to your Bank/Building Society. If your A/C number is not available fill in your address below.

Reference number (GMB use only)