

The latest news and announcements from Derbyshire UNISON

Peak District National Park Authority

There are worrying reports of large numbers of staff leaving the authority to get equivalent posts in neighbouring authorities, because they are being offered higher salaries there.



UNISON to raise concerns over pay and grading

Area organiser Dave Gorton recently met with members of the staff committee to discuss several areas of concern being raised by UNISON members.

Obviously a major concern is over Dave said:

the cost-of-living crisis, how it affects PDNPA staff and - more importantly - how the employer can help to ease the burden.

In terms of national pay awards, the authority can do very little.

The 2022 settlement has been accepted by members (see [Council workers accept deal that will give lowest-paid 10.5%](#)).

However, UNISON is approaching all local authority employers to see if other measures such as mileage allowances can be tweaked to provide benefits.

“We have been successful in achieving a raise in essential care user allowances in other Derbyshire councils and we will attempt to do the same within PDNPA”.

There have also been alarming reports that large numbers of staff have left the authority to get equivalent posts in neighbouring authorities. This is because these authorities pay more for what is virtually the same work.

This would appear to point to some issues with the job

Contacting Derbyshire UNISON

01629 582266

branch@unisondc.co.uk

derbyshireunison.com



evaluation and grading scheme and/or its implementation and UNISON wants to explore solutions with management.

There have been some other concerns raised surrounding job evaluation so it is the ideal opportunity to have a review, before more staff depart, leaving the authority under-resourced, adding further stress to remaining staff.

Dave has said he also wants to look at a more robust agile/hybrid working policy which, again, UNISON has negotiated in neighbouring authorities.

UNISON representation

Members will recall UNISON were looking for a group of volunteers to step forward as representatives of one form or another to assist Dave:

“I’m glad to say things are moving forward on this front and I hope to be able to announce something quite soon.

However, we would still like more people to come forward to be our eyes and ears in the workplace.

Without local representation, serious issues can be missed because everyone thinks someone else has raised them with us. That’s rarely the case!”

If you can lend a hand or want a further chat about what this means, please email [Dave](#).

UNISON visit to Aldern House

Members and other staff should have also received emails regarding a drop-in next week on Tuesday 8 November, being organised by area organiser Charlotte Allen. We’d encourage anyone in the vicinity to pop in for a few minutes to see how we operate and can help.