
The latest news and announcements from Derbyshire UNISON

Vertas pay

Although there is no formal pay bargaining machinery between Vertas and the unions, we have submitted our response in good faith and expect the company to give it serious consideration.



Vertas Derbyshire 2% pay offer is not enough

UNISON, with support from the other unions, last week submitted our formal response to the 2% pay award being offered by Vertas (Derbyshire) Limited in the form of a counter proposal we believe more appropriate to the real economic situation our members find themselves in.

The claim, formulated using economic forecasts and Vertas' own performance indicators as well as listening to members' own aspirations is:

- **An 8% increase for all salary points and allowances.**
- **An increase in rates for staff at the bottom of the pay scale to bring their pay up to the level of the Real Living Wage of £9.90.**

Although there is no formal pay bargaining machinery between Vertas and the unions, we have submitted our response in good faith and expect the company to give it serious consideration. The full claim can be viewed on our website.

This award would more fairly reflect the hard work of members over the last 2 years in extremely difficult circumstances, increases in the cost of living and pay rises seen elsewhere.

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The rate of inflation currently stands at 5.4% - although the real cost of living increase is higher - and National Insurance contributions are going up in April. We also note the highest paid Vertas director is paid ten times what the average cleaner makes, with their base salary in 2021 being £160,000, which will do nothing for the already low morale of Vertas staff.

We believe Vertas (Derbyshire) Limited becoming a Real Living Wage employer would represent the minimum VDL should commit to as a good employer to make sure low-paid workers are able to keep up with increases in the cost of living.

We want to thank members who took the time to fill in our pay survey. Your contribution was of great help in producing the pay claim. If you wish to discuss the issues around pay further, please get in touch with Matt Dwyer on 07896 161026. If you need to talk about other matters, please contact Dave Gorton on 07921 474704 or at dave.gorton@unisondc.co.uk

If your colleagues are not in UNISON, encourage them to join at joinunison.org, as together we are stronger.