

UNISON and PCS joint membership

Arrangements for
Learning and Skills
Council (LSC) staff
who transfer to
local authorities
in 2010



10 good reasons to join UNISON

1. You earn more

Year on year, UNISON wins pay rises for its members.

Average earnings are around 8 per cent higher in unionised workplaces.

2. You're more likely to get equal pay

UNISON is campaigning to bring women's pay into line with men's.

Workplaces with union recognition are 20 per cent more likely to have an equal opportunities policy.

3. You get more holiday

UNISON has won increased leave for many of its members wherever they work. The average trade union member in the UK gets 25% more annual leave than those not in a union.

4. You get more and better training

UNISON provides courses to help you learn new skills, improve existing ones and develop your career.

UNISON has won agreements with employers to pay for courses and provide time off for employees to attend them.

5. You get more maternity leave or parental leave

If you belong to UNISON, your employer is more likely to have parental leave policies which are more generous than the statutory minimum.

6. You're less likely to be injured at work

UNISON health and safety stewards are trained to minimise the risk of workplace injuries and ensure that employers meet their legal obligations.

7. If you do get injured at work, you'll get better compensation

UNISON wins millions in legal compensation for people who are injured or become ill at work. We won over £37 million in 2004 for members and their families.

8. You're less likely to be discriminated against

UNISON campaigns for tougher laws to make it illegal to discriminate on the basis of sex, race, age, disability or sexual orientation.

Black and Asian trade unionists earn 32 per cent more than non-unionised colleagues.

9. You can help our campaign for world class public services

UNISON campaigns against privatisation, including PFI and Foundation Hospitals.

We also seek equivalent pay and employment rights for our members working in the private and voluntary sectors.

10. You're less likely to be sacked

Trade union members are only half as likely to be sacked as non members.

Join UNISON — your friend at work

PLEASE FILL IN THIS FORM IN BLOCK CAPITALS USING BLACK INK AND RETURN THE APPLICATION FORM WITH THE DIRECT DEBIT MANDATE TO: PCS MIDLANDS REGIONAL OFFICE, NEW OXFORD HOUSE, 16 WATERLOO STREET, BIRMINGHAM B2 5UG.

1. YOUR PERSONAL DETAILS

Please tick or fill in the boxes below

Mrs	Ms	Miss	Mr	Other
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First name	Other initial(s)
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Surname/Family name	Date of birth / /
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Home address
Postcode

National insurance number (from your payslip)

<input type="checkbox"/> Please tick this box if you require materials in a different format (eg large print or Braille) - be sure to supply contact details below
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Please give a telephone number/voice/text/email address for UNISON to contact you – indicate if work or home

Contact tel/voice/text/email

How would you describe your ethnic origin?

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bangladeshi | <input type="checkbox"/> Asian Other | <input type="checkbox"/> Black UK |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chinese | <input type="checkbox"/> Black African | <input type="checkbox"/> Black Other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Indian | <input type="checkbox"/> Black Caribbean | <input type="checkbox"/> White UK |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pakistani | <input type="checkbox"/> Black Caribbean | <input type="checkbox"/> Irish |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asian UK | | <input type="checkbox"/> White Other |

2. YOUR EMPLOYMENT DETAILS

Employer's name

Your job title/occupation

Department/section

Workplace name and address

Postcode	Payroll number (from your payslip)
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3. WHAT YOU WILL PAY ON JOINING UNISON (FROM 1 APRIL 2010 UNTIL 1 OCTOBER 2011)

PCS members who join UNISON between 1 April 2010 and 31 December 2010 will move onto UNISON subscription bands A to G. The highest rate of subscription will be Band G (£11.50 per month). This is a limited offer – see overleaf for more detailed information on these rates for future years. Members who join after 31 December 2010 will move onto normal UNISON subscription rates.

Please tick the appropriate box for your earnings before deductions.

Weekly pay	Annual pay	per week	per month	Band	
Up to £38.47	Up to £2,000	£0.30	£1.30	A	Please tick the appropriate box to indicate how often you are paid <input type="checkbox"/> Weekly <input type="checkbox"/> Fortnightly <input type="checkbox"/> Four Weekly <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly
£38.48–£96.16	£2,001–£5,000	£0.81	£3.50	B	
£96.17–£153.84	£5,001–£8,000	£1.22	£5.30	C	
£153.85–£211.53	£8,001–£11,000	£1.52	£6.60	D	
£211.54–£269.23	£11,001–£14,000	£1.81	£7.85	E	
£269.24–£326.92	£14,001–£17,000	£2.24	£9.70	F	
£326.93–£384.61	£17,001+	£2.65	£11.50	G	

4. POLITICAL FUND

UNISON's Affiliated Political Fund (APF) is used to campaign for and promote UNISON policy and the need for quality public services within the Labour Party, locally and nationally, in Parliament and Europe. UNISON APF affiliates to the Labour Party.

UNISON's General Political Fund (GPF) is used to pay for campaigning at branch, regional and national levels of the union and for research and lobbying in Parliament and Europe. It is independent of support for any political party.

It is important that you indicate a choice of fund by ticking one of the boxes below.

Your subscription shown above includes a political fund payment so you do not pay any more by being in one of the funds.

5. YOUR AUTHORISATION

- I wish to join UNISON and accept its rules and constitution.
- I authorise deduction of the following Political Fund payment as part of my subscription:

tick one box only

Affiliated Political Fund General Political Fund

Now please sign and date below

Signature

Date

Payment is by Direct Debit – please now complete the mandate form ▶ ▶ ▶

DATA PROTECTION

UNISON will process your membership information together with other information for administration, statistical analysis, conducting ballots and other statutory requirement purposes.

We may also send you newsletters, journals and surveys and let you know about educational and campaigning matters. We will disclose your information to our service providers and agents for these purposes.

If you do not want any mailings from UNISON besides those required by statute as shown in bold above, please tick this box.

We may share your information with organisations with whom we have a business relationship for your benefit. We, or they, may contact you by mail, telephone, SMS, fax or e-mail to let you know about goods, services or promotions which we think may be of interest to you.

If you do not wish to receive such information please tick this box.

The Direct Debit Guarantee



DIRECT Debit

- This guarantee is offered by all banks and building societies that take part in the Direct Debit scheme. The efficiency and security of the scheme is monitored and protected by your own bank or building society.
- If the amounts to be paid or the payment dates change, UNISON will notify you 10 working days in advance of your account being debited or otherwise agreed.
- If an error is made by UNISON or your bank/building society, you are guaranteed a full and immediate refund from your branch of the amount paid.
- You can cancel a Direct Debit at any time, by writing to your bank or building society. Please also send a copy of your letter to us.

Here are some of the benefits of joining UNISON now...

- PCS members who join UNISON between 1 April 2010 and 31 December 2010 will move onto UNISON subscription bands A to G. The highest rate of subscription will be Band G (£11.50 per month)

From 1 October 2011 those earning more than £20,000 per annum will move to UNISON subscription band H (currently £14.00 per month).

From 1 October 2012 those earning more than £25,000 per annum will move to UNISON subscription band I (currently £17.25 per month).

From 1 October 2013 the incremental 'introductory' offer outlined above will cease and all members will be required to pay the standard rates of subscription in accordance with Schedule A of UNISON's rulebook.

- If you transfer your PCS membership to UNISON within four months of joining a local authority your length of PCS membership will add towards your entitlement for UNISON benefits - but not after this period (eg death, accident and fatal accident benefits). We will also waive the 13 week normal qualifying period to qualify for the benefits and the four week qualifying period to receive legal representation (we are only making this special allowance if you are an existing PCS member, regardless of your service length). If a member is on a sustained period of leave

during 2010 such as maternity, long-term sick, sabbatical etc, then the member's individual circumstances will be taken into consideration when calculating benefits and fees payable (including the start date).

- Excellent legal services including free help with work problems and legal support for members and their families.

- A special hotline, for help and advice on workplace issues.

- A strong branch and regional network.

- An email network for transferring members within a fully democratic structure.

- A first class system of steward and legal representation for members experiencing problems at work.

Under our joint membership arrangements here are the services you will continue to receive from PCS:

- Part of our national YPLA branch until the end of the year.

- Full participation in national union events.

- Continuous access to all PCS publications, including *PCS View*.

- Working with UNISON to give support and advice on all transfer issues, including access to the staff commission.

UNISON and PCS joint membership

UNISON, the biggest trade union in local government, has been working hard with PCS to help ensure that your transfer into local government service will be as hassle free as possible and that your interests are well represented. As a result, PCS are recommending that you change your trade union membership and join UNISON – PCS does not organise within local authorities.

This does not mean that you will lose all the experience and advice that PCS officers have built up over the years preceding the transfer. We have arranged joint membership benefits up to 31 December 2010 and reduced UNISON subscription rates for well over three years – but no joint fees! – just a simple payment to UNISON by Direct Debit. In addition, if you join UNISON within four months of joining a local authority you will be able to keep the accrued benefits you have built up through your PCS membership – further details overleaf.

