



there
for you

supporting UNISON members
when life gets tough

SIMPLE SAVINGS, SENSIBLE LOANS

UNISON members' credit union network

Does your bank refuse to listen?
Are you worried about paying the bills?
Are you tempted by unaffordable payday loans?
There is an alternative...

UNISON works with local credit unions to offer UNISON members:

- An alternative safe place to bank
- Affordable loans to suit you
- Great savings and budgeting plans

Does your bank no longer meet your needs?

Are you having problems getting a loan at a reasonable rate? Are you fed-up with fat-cat bankers and their bonuses? Then why not keep your savings with an ethical organisation that cares for its savers not shareholders?

Be part of the UNISON Credit Union Network

Credit unions offer a personal service with the full range of banking options, from current accounts to a range of savings products. Some even offer mortgages and most accounts can be run online at your convenience.

What is a credit union?

Credit unions are savings and loan co-operatives, where the members pool their savings to lend to one another and help to

run the credit union in a 'not-for-profit' way. The cash is only used to run the services and reward for its members and does not pay outside shareholders, unlike most other financial institutions. Credit unions are properly regulated organisations so your money is safe.

Are you tempted by unaffordable payday loans?

Sometimes we are faced with unexpected expenditure that overstretches our budget and we are tempted to take out an extremely expensive payday loan. Most credit unions offer short-term loans of small amounts at reasonable interest – unlike the exorbitant interest rates charged by payday lenders.

The most affordable way to borrow from a credit union though is through a saver loan where a member saves with the credit union, then uses their savings as collateral against the money they wish to borrow.

Loans offered by credit unions are transparent and typically with no hidden penalties unlike many doorstep or payday lenders.

People helping people

Credit unions help you take control of your money by encouraging you to save what you can, and borrow only what you can afford to repay. If you're simply looking to support your local community then this may also be an alternative place to invest some of your savings or volunteer your time by perhaps joining a management committee.

The benefits for UNISON members

UNISON has partnerships with over 70 credit unions covering most of the UK to provide a sensible alternative to high street financial institutions. Many banks and building societies have tightened their lending criteria as a consequence of the 'credit crunch', making it difficult for some UNISON members to access loans at fair interest rates. And banks often do not understand the banking needs of many people, so a credit union is a great alternative.

Want to be part of the UNISON credit union network?

Talk to your UNISON branch. They may already be working closely with a credit union and have arrangements in place with your employer to make payments on your behalf to the credit union through payroll deductions.

Or you can visit unison.org.uk/credit-unions to find your local UNISON credit union.

If you cannot find the information you need or prefer to speak to someone first call 020 7121 5620. If you contact our credit union partners direct, let them know you are a UNISON member and quote ref. 'UNISON'.

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There for you is UNISON's own charity providing advice, support and practical assistance to UNISON members and their families when they need it most.

UNISON's credit union partnerships are arranged and run by There for you.

UNISON's welfare service, There for You, also provides the following:

- financial assistance
 - debt advice
 - well-being breaks
 - support and information
- ...and much more.

Find out more at unison.org.uk/get-help/help-with-problems-at-home

UNISON Credit Union Network is not carrying out any regulated activities.

Credit unions who we refer members to are authorised and regulated by the PRA and FCA.

Three simple ways to join UNISON today and get essential cover wherever you work



Join online at
joinunison.org



Call us on
0800 171 2193



Ask your UNISON rep
for an application form