

# GMB@B49 BRANCH BULLETIN

ISSUE 4-2016

**GMB**

BIRMINGHAM AND  
WEST MIDLANDS

## **SCHOOLS UPDATE:**

GMB wins a successful campaign for back pay in relation to PDR increments back paid in to staff at **Oasis Bolton**. Members received their back pay in December 2015

**Bournville School**- Strike Action was averted through the efforts of GMB and other Unions. GMB have secured a better deal for our members who are affected by this restructure, which will mean they will receive better payments.

## **Complex Care and medical administration- in schools.**

Thanks to GMB's Campaign on Medication in Schools with the City. The Council have reviewed their Insurance policy to ensure better protection of staff who **choose** to take on this responsibility. The previous insurance lacked clarity and protection for support staff in schools carrying out these procedures.

## **Contract Changes**

Staff within Birmingham Council, Schools, Voluntary Controlled Schools, Maintained Nurseries, Council employed and also Acivico, have recently received letters in relation to proposed changes to contracts. GMB have issued a Newsletter in relation to this which can be found on our website, a list of schools affected is also on our website.

<http://www.gmbbirmedub49.org.uk/>

GMB have raised concerns as to why letters were sent out with such haste at such early stages of the consultation and without Unions seeing the letter beforehand, the head of HR has apologised that this letter was sent out. We are aware it has caused a lot of concern to our members.

These proposed changes if they are approved will not come into effect until January 2018.

GMB's stance on this issue is that we will be balloting all 7 thousand of our members for Industrial Action if the Council tries to push ahead with these changes. GMB WILL NOT Negotiate with the Council surrounding removing you Green Book Terms and Conditions, which some of the proposed changes such as sick pay come under.

GMB reps are more than happy to book in a workplace visit should you wish to discuss these proposed changes further, please contact the branch office Michelle Barnes to book in a visit.

## **THE SWITCH OVER TO DIRECT DEBIT:**

We are pleased to announce our Direct Debit switch over winner from our December Prize draw was Dale Mogg- Victoria School. We are launching our competition again, picking a one off prize winner who will receive a £100 in store voucher from all of our members who make the switch over to Direct Debit between now and May 2016. Our prize draw will take place in May 2016

Our Branch office alongside our Regional Office will be completing workplace visits to as many schools as we can over the next few months to speak to our members about the importance of switching over to direct debit. As there is a high likelihood, that the right to have your Union deductions taken from your pay will be removed. It is essential our members make the switch over to ensure our members remain covered by GMB.

The change over to D.D is very easy, the forms can be found on our website or you can make the switchover by phone by contacting our Regional Office 0121 550 4888. There is no need to write to payroll we will manage the changeover smoothly for you.

## **Our next BRANCH MEETING will take place on:**

10/03/2016 from 6pm- 8pm at the Council House Birmingham  
Please confirm attendance with the Branch so we can ensure we have the correct sized room.

What have we been up to?

## GMB Wins Successful Campaign to save lollipop wardens.

GMB Reps in support of the NUT rep suspended at Small Heath School.



 **UNIONS**  
8-14 FEBRUARY 2016



## EARLY YEARS UPDATE:

The Early Years Review is still underway; The Be heard Survey went live in December 2015 and will close at the end of February 2016. The link to the survey is: <https://www.birminghambeheard.org.uk/people-1/early-years->. If you are a professional in Early Years or have young children please input to the survey.

The Council is currently consulting as to whether the Early Years Sector should be split up into 10 districts and commissioned this way as opposed to being led by one organisation. Early Years is currently the responsibility of the council, there is already in existence some commissioning across the board across the localities. The Council as part of this survey is also trying to establish views as to whether the Early Health offer and Early Years offer should be commissioned separately or together. Further parts of the review are with respect to budgetary cuts and changes to statutory requirements in respect of Early Years. GMB have actively been involved in ensuring the consultation is meaningful as a result of our dispute last year which slowed the process down somewhat to ensure consultation is meaningful.

Birmingham City Council run Children's Centres providing day care were significantly at risk before GMB got involved. GMB have now ensured that these Centres are given every opportunity to become self-sustaining to try to ensure their survival, which is a great achievement by GMB union for our members who work in these Centres. The next part of the review will focus on the Early Years Consultants and the Consultation in respect to this will open in March 2016 and will run for 45 days. Please contact branch office if you are an Early Years Consultant and wish for further advice.

Further DSG funding has been secured in relation to the FYPS team via the DSG which means the service can continue on for the next 6 months, review and consultation will be needed, this is a major credit to the hard work of GMB, the staff team and the Council.

Contact GMB B49 Branch 0121 675 8036  
Join online at [www.gmb.org.uk/join](http://www.gmb.org.uk/join)

