

RIISING TOGETHER FOR BETTER PAY

HIGHER EDUCATION PAY 2023/24



University of Brighton

UNISON | Branch Newsletter

December 2023

Welcome to the final newsletter of 2023!

There are two issues dominating at the moment - strike action over pay, and ballot action to be able to take further action over pay in the future.

The branch committee met earlier in the month to make a decision over further strike action under our existing mandate, which lasts until the end of January.

After some discussion, we agreed not to request further days of strike action in January. This was because we don't think that taking further action at that point, in isolation to other higher education branches, would be the best use of the mandate that we have.



We're very conscious that it's hard work getting a strike mandate and so don't want to waste all that effort, but we also know that members will follow our lead and take strike action only when they think it's worth it. After years of on-off strikes, we know it's hard to keep that momentum and motivation going, and so all our efforts now will be put into making sure we can win the ballot currently taking place, with a turnout in excess of 50%.

We are due to talk to HR in January as part of the continuing discussion over working hours, annual leave and other terms and conditions. We'll report back to members at our first members' meeting of 2024 in late January. Then our Annual General Meetings in March will be partially a discussion on how we take things forward from there. We'll have our ballot results in mid-February, but if you've not yet voted, you know what to do.

We can't maintain a branch like ours without the active involvement of our members, so thanks to all our members for everything you've done throughout 2023.

Ivan Bonsell, branch secretary



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SCAN JOIN to

**VOTE YES
IN THE
RE-BALLOT**

RISING TOGETHER FOR **BETTER PAY** HIGHER EDUCATION PAY 2023-24

**Ballot papers for our pay re-ballot were posted to
home addresses on 29 November.**

As always, it's really important that we hit our 50% turnout threshold, so every vote will count.

Please make sure you return your ballot paper in the post as soon as you can.

If you don't receive it or you think you've lost it, please let us know and we can arrange to get you a replacement.

We will be contacting as many members as we can to check that you've voted, but you can help by letting us know when you have.

Please remember that non-members can join and have a vote, so let's use this as an opportunity to ask people to join.

Are you in our WhatsApp Community?

Our branch has a group for messages to members. Ideally, we want all members to join it so that we can send out urgent messages when we need to.

If you'd like to join, just email your name and phone number and we'll add you to it.



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