UNISON
Knowsley Branch

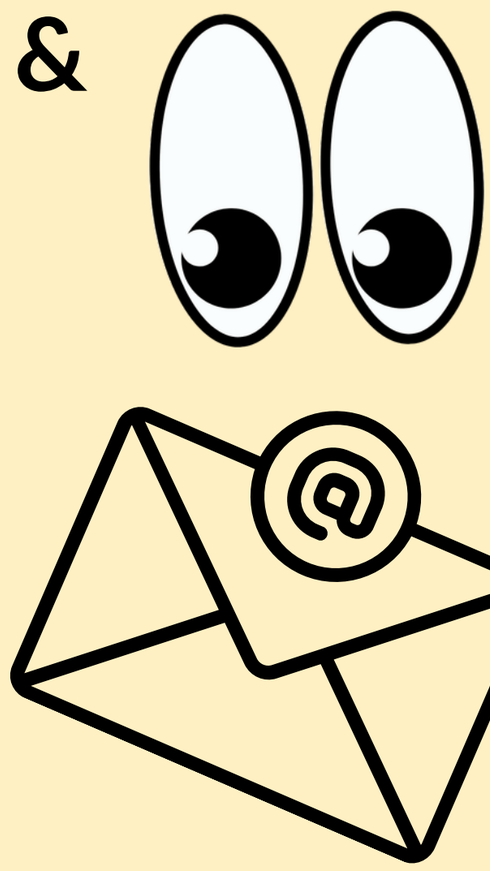
U-KNOW

NOVEMBER 2026

Your 2027 Pay Claim



UNISON will be starting pay consultations for all areas including Knowsley Council, Schools, Livv Housing, Volair, St. Helens & Knowsley Colleges and Career Connect. Branch Officers are starting to develop claims now for 2027 and ALL members should ensure their participation in this process. Look out for emails!



WHO WE ARE

UNISON is the majority Trade Union for public service workers in Knowsley.

We stand together to build worker power and win improvements to our pay, conditions and working lives.

Join Today

join.unison.org.uk

0151 548 0148 boa@knowsley-unison.org.uk
Website www.knowsley-unison.org.uk and follow us on social media
Facebook www.facebook.com/knowsleyunison / Twitter: Follow us @KnowsleyUnison
Knowsley UNISON, UNISON Office, C/O KMBC, Stretton Way, Huyton, L36 6JF

UNISON
Knowsley Branch

Artificial Intelligence (AI) WARNING!

Why AI Can't Replace Your UNISON Representative

Artificial intelligence (AI) is becoming part of everyday life. From writing emails to answering questions, tools such as ChatGPT can be useful. **But when it comes to employment and workplace issues, relying on AI for advice can be risky.**

AI does not know the full circumstances of your case. It may not understand your employer's policies, your contract, your collective agreement, your workplace history or the specific facts surrounding your situation. Most importantly, it cannot represent you.

Employment law can also be complicated and constantly changing. An AI-generated answer may sound confident and convincing while being incomplete, out of date or simply wrong. AI often produces very lengthy but inaccurate responses and so should never be used to write grievances, appeals or any other related correspondence. Acting on incorrect advice could potentially affect your employment rights or your ability to challenge an employer's decision. We have some very serious examples of where AI has led to problematic situations for our members.

That is why, if you have a problem at work, you should **speak to your UNISON representative.**

Your representative can listen to what has happened, ask the right questions, check the relevant policies and agreements, and help you understand your rights and options. They can also support you through meetings, investigations, disciplinary or grievance procedures and, where appropriate, take your case forward on your behalf.

AI can be a useful tool for general information — but it **should never be treated as a substitute for your union.**

If something happens at work and you are unsure what to do, don't rely on a chatbot or advice from social media. Contact your manager in the first instance and engage your UNISON representative as early as possible – see our UNISON flowchart for raising workplace issues.

Your union is there to give you informed, experienced and collective support when you need it most.

Don't ask AI to fight your corner. Get organised, collectively and use the weight of our union, UNISON.



JOIN A FIGHTING UNION

JOIN UNISON

UNISON
the public service union

Breaking the shackles of unfair Visas

by Helen Eda
(Knowsley UNISON Migrant Care Worker)



Our Fair Visa campaign is a call on the UK's Labour Party led government to:

- Stop the exploitation of Migrant Care Workers by some employers with Certificates of Sponsorship(COS)license.
- To keep their promise of a 5 years route to the Indefinite Leave to Remain (ILR) in the UK.



"Currently migrant workers across the country are being exploited within the care sector. UNISON hears far too often of members being subjected to bad employers, poor working conditions and health and safety concerns. If members raise any issues their employment status is often threatened, which not only means dismissal by their employer, but also removal from the country."
Paula Carlyle - Assistant Branch Secretary



Photographs: Branch members attending the Liverpool demonstration at Labour Party Conference

WHAT WE NEED

- Sector-wide Common Sponsorship that will give Migrant Care Workers the ability to choose their employers rather than being tied to a single employer and give them a sense of dignity in their workplaces.
- The government to keep the 5 years route to ILR as promised. It will be very unfair and therefore very "un-british" if this promise were to be broken.

Many carers now battle with mental health issues because of having to deal with the unfavorable conditions of employer based sponsorship visas, as well as the uncertainty surrounding their settlement in the UK, where our children now call home.
Some carers have not been able to see or bring over their loved ones because of visa rules changes, which never put Migrant Care Workers welfare into consideration before implementation. The woes are indeed endless.
We contribute to the economy of the United Kingdom and should not be used as excuses for the failures of the system.

We take care of yours,who takes care of ours? FAIR VISAS NOW!✊🏾

SSSNB Consultation Results

UNISON members working in school support staff roles in England were consulted between 15 September and noon on 6 October 2026, giving all affected members a say on the SSSNB. An overwhelming majority told us that they agreed with the proposals that are due to be implemented later in the year.







Get ready for e-balloting!

For statutory (industrial action) electronic balloting UNISON will only be able to send you a ballot via email if you have provided us with your personal email.

To vote by email, a personal email address **must be added** – a work email address cannot be used for statutory ballots.
Your preferred email can remain as your work email for all other communications, including our newsletter.
All can be done using the QR code below.

Remember to keep your details up to date using My-UNISON

Scan Me

It is vital members keep all their details up to date with us at all times including your Job Title , Workplace and Contact Details

GET ACTIVE!



Knowsley UNISON can only win with active members on the ground identifying issues and campaigning to win.

Could you be a Workplace Contact or a Rep? Register your interest by contacting the branch.



‘A union isn’t an outside organisation that comes in to help you, a union is YOU and your colleagues coming together to empower each other as a collective. And trust us, that’s way more powerful!’