



SCHOOL WORKFORCE NEWS

Issue 6 of the new series. **Yorkshire and North Derbyshire**

...nursery nurses, secretaries, bursars, learning support practitioners, sitekeepers, school meals staff, teaching assistants, learning mentors, administrators, cleaners, cover supervisors, librarians, midday supervisors, personal care assistants, technicians, HLTAs, School Business Managers.....**GMB, your union in schools**

Government puts your pension at risk

THE GOVERNMENT wants school support staff and teachers to pay on average 50% MORE for their pension every month.

It's also planning to RAISE the retirement age and LOWER the value of the pensions paid out.

Under the Government's plans, the amount you have to pay into your pension could go up in a matter of months. It would be like taking another pay cut.

Say "no" to the Government's attack on your pension

Say "yes" with GMB to fight for pensions justice

So far, the Government hasn't been prepared to engage in meaningful negotiations with unions.

Which is why GMB is balloting members on industrial action. Other support staff and teacher unions are doing the same. So are unions across the public sector, in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

School support staff are part of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS), which has 2 million contributing scheme members across the UK.

GMB has told the Government there is absolutely no need for further cuts to the LGPS, and that imposing these cuts would actually threaten the continued viability of the whole scheme. We think the Government is making an unjustified attack on the less well-off and on a predominantly female workforce.

The Government originally indicated it would give some protection to low-paid workers, but most term-time staff would still lose out because the Government's idea of "low paid" is based on *full-time equivalent salary*.

GMB remains ready and willing to enter into meaningful talks with the Government. But the ballot process must begin now in preparation for the proposed "Defend Your Pension" day of action across the public sector on Wednesday 30th November.

GMB will soon send out full details about the ballot. In the meantime, GMB members should check their membership information is up to date, to ensure they receive a ballot paper. If you are not already in GMB, join now so you too can defend your pension.

Get ready for the pensions ballot!

- ✚ Talk to your colleagues and make sure they understand the threat to their retirement. Contact bill.chard@gmb.org.uk
- ✚ Keep up to date by checking the GMB website regularly: www.gmb.org.uk/pspc
- ✚ Ask non-members to join GMB: www.gmb.org.uk/join
- ✚ Ensure your GMB membership details are correct on the GMB website:

Key facts about your pension, the Local Government Pension Scheme

1) The LGPS has £165 billion in assets. It currently takes in over £4 billion a year more than it pays out.

2) The amount that the LGPS costs employers is actually falling, partly as a result of changes made three years ago.

3) The scheme is definitely not "gold-plated". The average pension from the LGPS is around £4,200 a year. For women the average is only £2,800.



Join GMB online at www.gmb.org.uk/join or fill-in the form on the back

Term-Time Only £6.50 per month

How do I join?



Just fill in the form below and hand it in to your local GMB workplace organiser, or post it to GMB Yorkshire and North Derbyshire region, FREEPOST NEA524, Grove Hall, 60 College Grove Road, Wakefield WF1 3SY (you do not need a stamp).

JOIN GMB AT
www.gmbbyorkshire.org.uk
 Or if you have any questions call **0845 337 7777**



Remember - GMB membership covers you for all of your jobs, wherever you work. GMB contributions are £2.65 if you work 21 hours or more per week, £1.50 if you work between 10-20 hours per week and just 85p if you work less than 10 hours per week. ***85p rate excludes cash benefits**

FOR UNION USE ONLY Section Branch No Membership No Date of joining

GMB Yorkshire and North Derbyshire region membership application form

1 TELL US ABOUT YOU

Surname First name Title Mrs/Miss/Ms/Mr Date of birth

Home address Home Tel Email

Postcode Mobile I agree to abide by GMB rules Signature

Date We ask for your ethnic origins as part of our equal opportunities policy of improving services to all members
 Bangladeshi /Black African /Black Caribbean /Black British /Chinese /Indian /Pakistani /White /Other

2 TELL US ABOUT YOUR JOB

Employer Your job

Address where you work Postcode

How many hours a week do you work? Pay No

Work Tel Pay Date

3 CHOOSE EITHER AUTHORISATION OF DEDUCTION OF YOUR TRADE UNION CONTRIBUTIONS FROM YOUR PAY

Section 68, Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidated) Act 1992 as amended

- I authorise my employer to deduct from my pay each week/month the sum of £ or other amounts as may be fixed by the GMB from time to time.
- Please start the deductions immediately and pay the amounts to the GMB. Cash
- I note that this agreement may be cancelled by one month's notice in writing.
- I give permission to my employer to notify the GMB of any future change of address.

Signed Date

4 OR INSTRUCTION TO YOUR BANK OR BUILDING SOCIETY TO PAY DIRECT DEBITS



Please fill in the form and send to **GMB Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region**, Grove Hall, 60 College Grove Road, Wakefield WF1 3RN

Name and full postal address of your Bank or Building Society branch

To the Manager of Bank/Building Society

Address Postcode

Name(s) of account holder(s)

Bank/Building Society Account Number

Bank/Building Society Sort Code

Reference number (Office use only)

Service User Number

For GMB official use only. This is not part of the instruction to your Bank/Building Society. If your A/C number is not available fill in your address below.

Instructions to your Bank or Building Society.
 Please pay GMB Direct Debits from the account detailed in this Instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this Instruction may remain with GMB and, if so, details will be passed electronically to my Bank/Building Society.

Signature(s)

Date

Banks or Building Societies may not accept instructions for some types of account