



London living wage victory for Caterlink workers!

After more than a year of campaigning, we have successfully achieved the implementation of the London living wage of £9.15 per hour from 1 September 2015 for nearly 300 workers in 51 schools on the Caterlink contract: an increase of nearly 40% on their current pay rate of £6.60 per hour.

Workers currently earning above the minimum rate (like Relief, Assistant Cooks and Chefs) should also receive pay increases to at least £9.15 per hour but we have not yet been informed of the new proposed rates. We will inform members as soon as we know more. Caterlink have confirmed to us verbally and in writing that workers will be paid at the higher rate in their pay cheques this month.

As a result last term we suspended our indicative ballot for strike action. We would like to thank all of you who joined UNISON, attended our meetings and demonstrations, encouraged your colleagues to join, and especially to those of you who volunteered to become school contacts and reps. Without your involvement and active participation we would not have achieved this significant victory.

If you are not yet in UNISON, please join today using the form overleaf, on our website or by calling freephone 0800 1712193.

Rumours

Some Caterlink members have come to us having heard rumours about the pay increase not being given to everyone, or some people having their hours cut. Caterlink cannot just cut your hours, and the pay increase should be for everyone. If you do not receive your pay increase in this month's pay cheque, or management try to reduce your hours let John or Hugo know as soon as possible.

What next?

The London living wage was only part of our pay claim. Next we want to get official union recognition, so management have to consult with us and staff on pay, conditions and any changes, and campaign for a decent occupational sick pay scheme, so you don't have to feel forced to come to work when you're ill, and you don't have difficulties paying for food and bills if you become sick. We have shown we can win improvements, the more members we have the better pay and conditions we can win!

Caterlink is by far the biggest school catering contractor, so this is where we focused our campaign first. Now we have won at Caterlink we are also expanding our campaign to cover other contractors at other schools. So if you work for a different company in a kitchen, join Camden UNISON today and contact John or Hugo to let us know so we can take forward a London living wage claim for you as well.

Inset days and NJC increase

Now we have won the living wage, our Caterlink Inset backpay claim is progressing again. To speed things along we need your help: if you haven't given us your school's Inset day dates yet talk to your school bursar and ask them for a list of all school's Inset days over the last 6 years (or as far back as you can). Then let Hugo or John know.

Last term we also successfully got Caterlink to pay the NJC increase to staff who were originally TUPE transferred from Camden. If you didn't get this contact Hugo or John.

Your UNISON representatives

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Website: camdenunison.org.uk

Join UNISON – essential cover if you work in public services

Simply complete the form below and post it to John or Hugo at the Crowndale

1 Tell us about you

Title	First name
Surname/family name	
Date of birth	

Home address

Postcode

email

Phone number (please indicate if home, work or mobile)

National insurance number (from your payslip)

Please give your ethnic origin: (tick one box)

<input type="checkbox"/> Bangladeshi	<input type="checkbox"/> Pakistani	<input type="checkbox"/> Black African	<input type="checkbox"/> Black UK	<input type="checkbox"/> White UK
<input type="checkbox"/> Chinese	<input type="checkbox"/> Asian UK	<input type="checkbox"/> Black Caribbean	<input type="checkbox"/> Black other	<input type="checkbox"/> Irish
<input type="checkbox"/> Indian	<input type="checkbox"/> Asian other	<input type="checkbox"/> White other		

2 Tell us about your job

Employer's name

Your job title/occupation

Workplace name and address

Postcode

3 What you will pay each month

Please tick the appropriate box for your earnings before deductions.

Annual pay	Your subscription
Up to £2,000	£1.30
£2,001-£5,000	£3.50
£5,001-£8,000	£5.30
£8,001-£11,000	£6.60
£11,001-£14,000	£7.85
£14,001-£17,000	£9.70
£17,001-£20,000	£11.50
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£25,001-£30,000	£17.25
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over £35,000	£22.50

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