

Durham Local Government UNISON Bulletin

28 November 2016

Schools Edition Update for TAs

Teaching Assistants once again delivered solid strike action on 23rd and 24th November. This time around, UNISON members registered **114** picket lines at schools across the County, and on Thursday morning the demo outside County Hall drew the biggest gathering yet - an estimated **1500** of you showed your strength and roared.

The numbers marching down into the City Centre created a huge impact, streaming across the bridges and crowding the narrow streets, before gathering in the Market Place and then Gala Square.



Messages of Support

The campaign continues to grow in strength and to date we have received messages of support from UNISON branches across the country, as well as UNISON Northern Regional Women's Network and UNISON Cymru.

Representatives from a number of organisations have also sent solidarity, such as: Newcastle NASUWT, Northern TUC, Communication Workers Union (CWU), Fire Brigades Union (FBU) Artists' Union England, The National Pensioners Convention, Berwick and District Trades Union Council and The European Federation of Public Services Union (EPSU).

At present, four Constituency Labour Party meetings have voted unanimously to support TAs and called on the Council to negotiate. A letter from Durham Labour Left has also attracted over 200 signatures from Labour Party members.



The branch office is open:


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the public service union

Thinking of joining, contact us in the branch or you can
join on line at **www.joinunison.org**

Parents have also been writing messages of support on picket lines across Durham. Here are some examples:

***“We need our teaching assistants. They do an amazing job. We need More!!
Give them what they deserve!”***

***“Teaching Assistants do a great job and are greatly valued and appreciated
by both parents and pupils. Thank you for all you do.”***

***“Schools cannot function without the dedicated support of TAs. Thank
you.”***

“Teaching Assistants are under paid and over worked!”

You should be rightly proud of the action and show of strength and determination that you are delivering: sending a message that Durham County Council cannot possibly ignore. Keep fighting, you have the support of your Union, the public, and unions far and wide.



Durham UNISON
Working for you