

90% of Council staff concerned about health and safety

UNISON City of Edinburgh branch recently put out a survey to members working for Edinburgh Council regarding the union's #PlugTheGap campaign. We had a really positive response to the survey and a small group of branch activists are now preparing to follow up with members who responded to see how we can move this campaign forward and engage new activists in the branch.

Unsurprisingly, the survey has shown that health and safety at work is a massive area of concern for members. 90% of survey respondents indicated that safety at work was their primary concern. UNISON believes that in the fight against Covid-19,

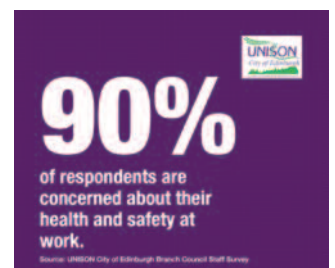
workers' rights are public health rights. We remain clear that safety must come first: For you, your family, and the wider community

Many respondents indicated that they were interested in becoming active in UNISON – whether that is: taking up a steward or Health & Safety representative role, passing on union information to colleagues or simply just attending an online union meeting. That is why, in the next few weeks, in response to our survey findings, you may receive a phone call from one of us following this up.

Together we can organise and build a stronger UNISON City of Edinburgh Branch.

Other key findings from the survey show:

- 85% of respondents are concerned about not being able to support service users, clients or pupils properly.
- 79% of respondents are concerned about low pay.
- 83% of respondents are concerned about their mental wellbeing at work.
- 80% of respondents are concerned with understaffing .
- 61% of respondents feel that their current workload is too high.



#Plug the Gap

UNISON's #PlugTheGap campaign is about the estimated £1bn shortfall in funding to local authorities in Scotland. The Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (CoSLA), estimates this is the amount of money that the Scottish Government need to invest in local councils just so that they can continue to provide vital local

services. The recently announced Scottish government budget falls well short of this, and will mean further threats to jobs, terms and conditions and services.

This is why we need to come together as a branch to get the message out to colleagues, local politicians and the public.

Join us in UNISON 0131 558 7488 or www.unison-edinburgh.org.uk

P&P by UNISON City of Edinburgh Branch, Douglas House, 60 Belford Road, Edinburgh EH4 3UQ 0131 558 7488