

VOTE

MARK FERGUSON

Dear Branch Secretary,

I am seeking your branch's nomination for the local government male seat on UNISON's NEC.

UNISON'S CHALLENGE

The cost of living crisis, and the attacks on our members from governments across all nations, is a huge challenge for UNISON. To lead our union, we need NEC members who are focussed on:

- ✓ winning for members
- ✓ challenging employers and governments
- ✓ growing our union and training more activists
- ✓ campaigning for better funding for public services
- ✓ working in partnership with all activists, our elected General Secretary, and staff.

A NATIONAL NEGOTIATOR

I demonstrate this every day, both locally and nationally, and I know our members respond best when activists, like myself, provide strong and clear leadership.

For over 25 years in UNISON, I have stood up to employers and governments to secure better pay, pensions, terms and conditions, and recognition for local government workers.

As a lay leader, I have worked collectively with UNISON activists and staff to win the highest pay award in many decades for our members in Scottish Local Government. I negotiated nationally with employers and government Ministers, liaised with other trade unions and planned strategies for smashing Tory anti-trade union ballot thresholds, and taking industrial action.

At a time of serious economic crisis, UNISON's NEC needs members like me, with a track record of winning better pay for members - both through negotiations and strike action - and with total commitment to UNISON.

BRANCH RECRUITING AND ORGANISING

I've been involved in my branch for 25 years and worked alongside many branches to build UNISON's membership base, strengthen members' resolve and readiness to demand better.

I've helped over 300 home care staff win sex discrimination cases and substantial pay-outs, secured local deals to reduce the gender pay gap and created a more equitable working environment for a predominantly female workforce. Throughout my activism I've given guidance, support, and representation to hundreds of members, and I have extensive knowledge of the challenges in local government.

You can trust me to represent you on UNISON's NEC, to work in partnership with your branch, and to deliver for all our members in our fight for workers' rights, decent working lives and public services. I will always be accessible and accountable to you, and always work in our collective best interests.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my nomination.

MARK FERGUSON

