



UNISON Yorkshire Ambulance Branch
UNISON

UNISON Pay Ballot

The UNISON pay ballot will open next week. This will give **every member** the chance to have their say on the negotiated offer put forward by the Government to end our current pay dispute for the financial year 22/23 and agree the uplift for the next financial year taking us to April '24.

Pay offers and disputes are always emotive, with valid arguments both for and against. This may not be the offer we had hoped for when stood on the picket lines but it is more than we would have been offered if we hadn't taken that action, that is certain. What you need to decide is do you think this offer is enough?

The national stance, including feedback from those who were actually in the negotiations, is to accept. They feel this is the best that can be achieved.

There are many others who feel that actually, looking at other disputes, the right way to go is to reject the proposal, increase industrial action and coordinate with other unions, in order to try and achieve a better offer for members. This has had some success elsewhere, so accepting the first offer is wrong.

Ultimately other people's opinions should only help you to you make as much of an informed decision as possible. What all those things that are being said do not take into account, and never could because it is personal to you, are your circumstances.

I encourage you to read all the things that have been said from both sides about the pay offer, there are some genuinely interesting and informative posts on various platforms, including articles on the national UNISON site. You may feel strongly that the fight must go on, we have had lower than inflation pay rises for years which have definitely kept our wages down, or you may see this settlement as a lifeline which pays those bills that have just landed and stops you falling deeper into a financial hole.

Ultimately, whatever I say, colleagues on station say, whatever OneYAS wants you to do or the national guidance recommends, ultimately please make the decision that is right for you.

This will be an electronic ballot, so members will be able to vote online, and it will run for a period of 3 weeks. Further information on the exact date and time the ballot will open and how you can vote will follow.