

# GMB NEWSLETTER.

SPRING 2016, ISSUE 3



## News headlines:

The big transfer to Direct Debit is underway.

Trade union side disagreement over two-year pay deal.

The future of our union office at Mill Road.

## GMB CAMBRIDGE 2 BRANCH.

### The Big Transfer to Direct Debit.

We have now just about finished our 1<sup>st</sup> stage of transferring our Cambridge City Council members to Direct Debit. The next stage will be to join our colleagues in the regional organizing team to start the transfer of Schools based staff. This will be a large piece of work due to the geographical area to be covered and the number of members involved. Future stages will involve Cambridge County council direct employees and other local authorities.

### The Future of our Mill Rd Office.

With the move of all services from Mill Road depot to varying sites it has always been inevitable that the Union office would have to move too. More recently we have started preparing by moving our monthly branch meetings from Mill road Conference room to the Meadows Centre (details on website).

We are currently in discussions to move the Union office to the new Cowley Road operations site and as this develops we will keep you updated.

### We Need your Help!

All GMB members are different, some only call us on the phone, some like us to drop by for a chat, others are based in remote locations and others just outside our office window. Some members visit our office every day!

If you would have a notice board in your workplace you'd like us to regularly update or would like to receive occasional promotional items and offers or like us to drop by for a catch up please let us know.

An advertisement for car insurance. On the left, a green hatchback car is shown on a green hill. To the right, there is a green box with the text 'Car Insurance' and 'Exclusive discount for GMB members'. Below this, there is a green heart icon, the Liverpool Victoria logo (LV), and the GMB logo. A green box with the text 'Quote me' is also present.

## UNIONLINE

YOUR TRADE UNION LAW FIRM

0300 333 0303

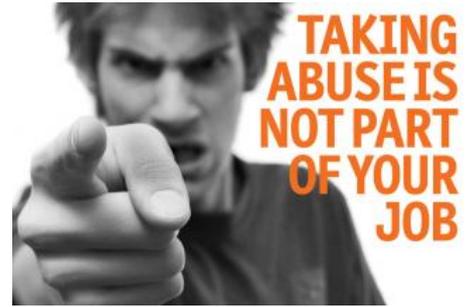
www.unionline.co.uk

## GMB Cambridge 2, What is happening?

Like all other workplaces our Cambridge 2 branch is changing to meet members needs, whether it's extra resources or improved ways we work you can be sure we are in the best place to support you.

Every year we are asked to set out our organising plan to ensure we improve and develop our membership services, some plans for 2016 are as follows:

- Uniformly recognisable, updated notice boards.
- Utilising our extra 50% facility time for members within Cambridge City Council, with the new Convener position (Lee Hillam).
- Launching a completely new website with local details for members: [www.gmbcambridge2.co.uk](http://www.gmbcambridge2.co.uk) including the introduction of E News.
- Branch Twitter & Facebook for updates, photos and news.



## Trade union side disagreement over two-year pay deal.

Following full membership consultation by GMB, and similar exercises by Unison and Unite, there is a different position among the national trade unions over the two-year pay deal that came about from national negotiations.

GMB is clear. Our members voted clearly to accept the two-year deal and to get it into pay packets as soon as possible. (Over 2 years the deal is worth 2.4% on the paybill - a 1% increase for most people in 2016 and again in 2017 and between 2.41% and 10% for the lowest paid).

What Unison and Unite seem to be saying is that they would now be prepared instead to accept half the two-year deal, ie the first year of it only. For GMB, we cannot and will not go against the wishes of you our members, whatever other unions might want us to do. But the result is a trade union stalemate.

What will happen next is Unison and Unite will break ranks and offer the Employers half the two-year deal. As far as GMB knows there is no membership mandate for them to do this and there is no guarantee that the employers will respond positively.

The real issue is that in the meantime everyone's pay rise is being delayed and some very good increases for the lowest paid are sitting in the Employers' pocket rather than our members'.

**Over 610,000 working people in the UK have decided to join GMB. 40,000 of them in the last three years alone. GMB is Britain's quickest growing trade union.**

**GMB is a campaigning trade union. Its job is to get the best deal for GMB members at work and is committed to building a strong organization in every GMB workplace an so help make every workplace safer. Whoever you are, wherever you work: joining GMB is the right decision.**



**Thinking of joining us?**

Visit [www.gmb.org.uk](http://www.gmb.org.uk)

**Call us locally:**

**Kevin Roberts**

**Lee Hillam**

**01223 458208**

**Mill Road Depot.**

