



SAVE OUR SERVICES FROM EXTINCTION

#FairfundingNPT #ExtinctNPT

We are asking you and your families to support the campaign by signing both the online petitions or filling out a campaign card. Let's show the Welsh Assembly Members (these are the people who are just about to make the decision on the level of funding the council receives) how fed up we are with the continual cuts to our services.

The petition asks the Assembly Members to keep the present level of funding for Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council when setting the budget this Autumn. Our council is one of the most deprived councils areas in Wales and following the recent years of cuts finds itself cut back to the bare bones.

Further budget cuts will:-

- ▣ devastate local jobs, services and communities.
- ▣ put the most vulnerable within the Borough at further risk.
- ▣ have a huge impact on the local economy - the Council being a major employer.
- ▣ mean vital services are at risk of becoming unsustainable with the potential for outsourcing to the private or third sector. This results in the loss of democratic accountability.
- ▣ result in more deprivation in our communities, compulsory redundancies and the extinction of our vital services.
- ▣ mean disruptive, costly and poor quality service provision.
- ▣ mean the possibility of changes to employees terms and conditions.

The Welsh Government needs to spend smarter not spend less, without smart spending our community will see the extinction of vital services. Wiser allocation of finances is essential, for example, to ensure a vibrant integrated Social Care model fit for the 21st Century, Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council require funding to be pass-ported from Health to Local Government.

The Government vision that everybody in Wales should live in well-connected vibrant, viable and sustainable communities with a strong local economy and good quality of life is ESSENTIAL- It is what we all deserve. But in order for this vision to materialize public services must be safeguarded. This will ensure that the residents of Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council have a belief in a better future.

Welsh Government must understand that leaving Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council to pick up the bill for national policies is not an option.

Welsh Government must ensure that Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council receives fair funding.

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Lobbying MPs for FAIR FUNDING in Parliament

Mark Fisher, your Branch Chairman, visited the Houses of Parliament to lobby MPs over Fair Funding for Local Councils on September 4th.

Mark spoke to lots of MPs including Stephen Kinnock (MP for Aberavon), Christina Rees (MP for Neath) and Angela Rayner (Shadow Secretary of State for Education) to discuss the Barnett Formula funding stream from Westminster.

Mark was able to discuss the local difficulties Neath Port Talbot Council have with their continuous budget cuts and the effect it is having on staff, local services and the community particularly with Stephen Kinnock and Christina Rees.

Mark was pleased that both Christina and Stephen supported more funding for local authorities, and agreed to lobby for the change of the funding formula which will assist the Welsh Government with their allocation to local authorities. This made it a very successful and worthwhile visit.



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Fair funding for Wales!

Cyllid teg i Gymru!



Latest negotiations on changes to the ER VR Scheme

Following a series of in-depth discussions at full UNISON Committee Meeting, the Committee have reluctantly agreed to accept the reduced ER/VR Scheme (45 weeks). However this was only on the provision that this scheme stayed at 45 weeks for as long as the Forward Financial Plan stands – we believed this to be 3 years. It was consequently confirmed by the Council Officers that the scheme would be in place until *at least* 31st March 2022.

The revised terms of the scheme will be presented to Members at Personnel Committee on 15th October, and, subject to their approval, it will be operational from that date.

The negotiation team endeavours always to get the best deal possible for members.

Local QuestionTime

It was an excellent turnout with standing room only from staff on the 21st September for the 'Question Time' of local politicians. The AMs and MPs heard how brutal spending cuts have damaged community services, they were pressed on the way forward. Staff voiced their intension to lobby for an end to austerity and for a fair funding deal for Wales. Labour's Shadow Secretary of State for Wales Christina Rees MP, Stephen Kinnock MP, David Rees AM, Jeremy Miles AM, David Rees AM, Bethan Sayed AM, Mike Hedges AM, Steven Phillips NPT Chief Executive attended with a series of testing questions coming from the audience.

Thanks to all for a thought provoking session. the session was covered on the ITV evening news. Both Mark and Steven have recorded short videos to explain the impossible situation the council is finding itself in. Both are available to view on the NPT UNISON website and Facebook page.



All UNISON members can access a complimentary, no obligation consultation with one of Lighthouse Financial Service's independent mortgage advisers.

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With our help, you could end up saving hundreds or even thousands of pounds in mortgage repayments.

LIGHTHOUSE GROUP
FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS

International Day for the
Remembrance of the Slave Trade
and its Abolition

The free event has been organised and run by UNISON Cymru/Wales Black Members at Butetown Community Centre, Cardiff. The event was to remember our brothers and sisters who gave so much in their struggle for freedom. The Chair of UNISON Cymru/Wales Black Members (Kebbah Manneh) welcomed the speakers Roger McKenzie (UNISON Assistant Secretary), Aileen Burmeister (National Co-ordinator, Fair Trade Wales), Stephen Chapman (Anti-Slavery Co-ordinator Welsh Government) and thanked Vaughan Gething (Cabinet Secretary for Health, Well-being, and Sport) for his video message.

The speakers explored modern slavery in the UK and how people are trafficked into UK from overseas for forced labour in industries such as agriculture, construction, hospitality, manufacturing and car washes. They also highlighted how many women and girls are trafficked for sexual exploitation and domestic slavery and how children are forced into crime including cannabis production, petty theft and begging.

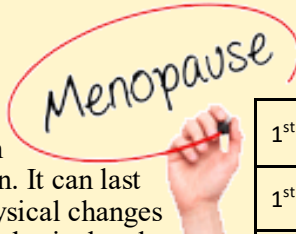
Stephen Chapman explored how communities and organisations can continue to combat the very real threat of slavery that remains in the world and what the people of Wales can do to support this work.

Sam Alkamaz, Assistant Branch Secretary



What is the menopause?

The menopause is a natural stage in a woman's life, usually happening between the ages of 45 and 55, marked by changes in the hormones and the ending of menstruation. It can last from four to eight years. It brings with it physical changes to the body and for many women can cause physical and psychological symptoms. For some women, these symptoms can be significant.



“The menopause can lead to changes in a woman's health and may also lead to emotional changes”

We have one-hour Menopause Awareness sessions available. To book onto these sessions please contact Kiera Francis k.francis2@npt.gov.uk or 01639 686194.

Or for further information about the sessions please contact Jane Gebbie on 0750 864 3052.

1 st October	Rooms A & B Neath Civic Centre	13.30 – 14.30
1 st October	Rooms A & B Neath Civic Centre	14.45 – 15.45
2 nd October	Rooms 3 & 4 The Quays	14.15 – 15.15 (this session is for male managers only)
2 nd October	Rooms 3 & 4 The Quays	15.30 – 16.30
9 th October	Committee Rooms 1 & 2 Port Talbot Civic Centre	10.00 – 11.00
9 th October	Committee Rooms 1 & 2 Port Talbot Civic Centre	11.15 – 12.15

Thanks to everyone who had a picture with our campaign 'selfie photo' frame... here are a small selection!



DID YOU KNOW?

UNISON is the largest trade union in the United Kingdom with almost *1.4 million members*.

Want to do something more?

Help your colleagues and other members by becoming a UNISON rep or workplace contact. Being a UNISON workplace rep gives you the opportunity to:

- ▶ make a positive difference to people's work lives
- ▶ learn new skills and meet new people
- ▶ help create a fairer society

Get involved in UNISON. To find at more contact the local branch office on **01639 763820 / unison@npt.gov.uk**



Paperwork for next year's Annual General Meetings will be hitting your letterbox soon!

Workshop to Raise Awareness of Prevent duty training (WRAP)

'Prevent' is part of the UK's Counter Terrorism Strategy, preventing people from becoming involved in terrorism or supporting terrorism.

From 1st July 2015, all Local Authorities have been required to prevent vulnerable adults and young people from being drawn into terrorism.

Staff must know how to identify people who are at risk of radicalisation and what to do when they are identified.

Home Office-accredited training has been specifically written to address these needs, with specialist workshops designed by HM Government available for all staff to give an introduction to the 'Prevent' strategy and an individual's role in safeguarding vulnerable people. The course includes case studies, local

information, and the referral pathway.

The WRAP Training course covers:

- ★ an overview of 'Prevent' as part of the Government's counter terrorism strategy, legislation and guidance,
- ★ what makes people vulnerable,
- ★ how to identify the risks,
- ★ 'Prevent' as it relates to safeguarding and how and when to report concerns.

Face-to-face training and e-learning options are available, with 2018 course dates shown below. To book a place on one of these courses please contact Andrew Morris

DATE	VENUE	TIME
Thursday 13th September	Rooms 1/2 Port Talbot Civic Centre	10.00-11.30am
Friday 19th October	Rooms 3/4 The Quays Briton Ferry	10.00—11.30am
Monday 12th November	Rooms A/B Neath Civic Centre	9:30—11:30am
Thursday 22nd November	Rooms A/B Neath Civic Centre	2:00—4:00pm
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NPT Community Chest: £1500 for local clubs

Are you a member of a sports club, or an organization that promotes physical activity, and if so could your club use £1500? Community chest could help you! Community Chest is a Sport Wales initiative and managed locally.

The Neath Port Talbot panel have awarded almost £1.5 million to local clubs since its inception.

Neath Port Talbot council's Physical Activity & Sport Service (PASS) Development Officer Derek Jones said this funding has allowed new clubs to be formed and existing voluntary organizations the opportunity to expand and improve.

The purpose of this Sports Wales initiative is to make a difference to local sport and physical activity opportunities that are additional to what is already in place and would not be possible without a grant; and to increase participation, improve standards of performance and encourage more people to become physically active more often.

Some of the main areas of criteria are: recruitment of volunteers, coach education (qualification and upskilling of coaches), first aid costs, new additional club/team start-up costs, non-personal items of equipment, publicity, community club and school links. The priority areas are black and minority ethnic, disability (inclusion), women and girls, children, young people and families experiencing poverty, and areas of deprivation.

Who can apply? Any group that holds an account (be it a bank, building society or credit union account) in their organization's name. You'll probably be one of the following: sports club or association, youth club, community group, Scouts/Guides group, etc.

Remaining Panel dates Tuesday 16th Oct 2018 (closing date for applications 15th Jan 2019) / Tuesday 30th Oct 2018 (closing date for applications 29th Jan 2019)

If anyone is already involved or interested in becoming involved in a voluntary sporting organization or club and requires any information or assistance on how to fill in the form they can contact Derek Jones on **01639 861101 / 0776 762 0869** or **d.i.jones@npt.gov.uk**



***If your membership details have changed please help us by completing this form.
Every form returned has the chance to win one of 20 travel mugs (what's not to love?)!***

Membership number:

Surname:

Forename(s):

Home address:

Postcode:

Previous surname *(if applicable)*:

Previous address *(if applicable)*:

Postcode:

Personal contact number:

Personal email address:

Job title:

Work address/location:

Postcode:

Employer:

Work contact number:

Work email address:

Please indicate your preferred email address:

Personal email

Work email

Please indicate if you would like UNISON to contact you via:

Email

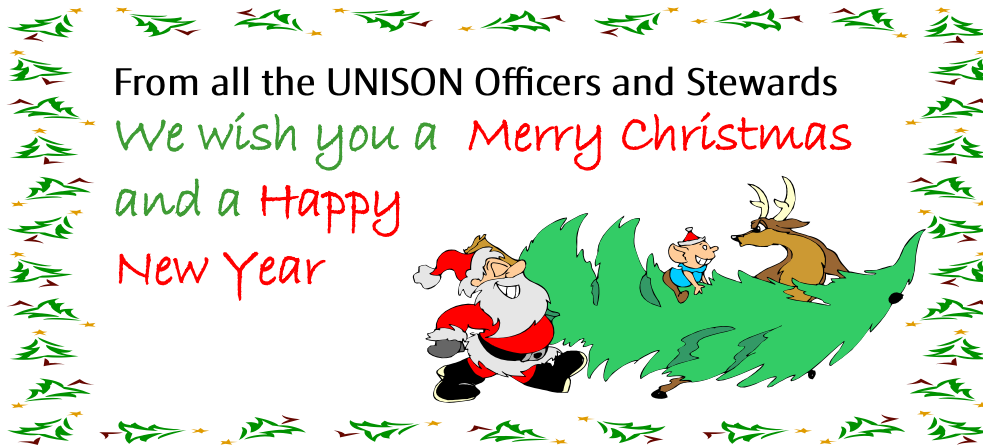
Text

Phone

***Please email completed forms to unison@npt.gov.uk
or send to UNISON Neath Port Talbot Branch, Room 254, Civic Centre,
Port Talbot, SA13 1PJ***

Please go to unison.org.uk/privacypolicy to see how we will protect and use your private information





NPT UNISON

01639 763820
unison@npt.gov.uk
www.nptunison.org.uk

Postal address
 UNISON, c/o Civic Centre,
 Port Talbot SA13 1PJ

Personal visits
 Room 254, First Floor,
 Civic Centre, Port Talbot

Branch Secretary / Membership Officer / Sports & Social Officer

Jane Gebbie
 0750 864 3052
j.gebbie@npt.gov.uk

Branch Chair / Labour Link Officer

Mark Fisher
 0797 125 5130
unisonchair@npt.gov.uk

Assistant Branch Secretary / Equalities Officer

Sam Alkarnaz
 01639 686953 or 0786 653 9456
s.alkarnaz@npt.gov.uk

Branch Vice Chair / International Officer

Lisa Walters
 01639 763925
l.walters@npt.gov.uk

Treasurer / Labour Link Officer

Neelo Farr
 01639 862997
n.farr@neath-porttalbot.gov.uk

Welfare Officer

Hazel Dance
 01639 684743
h.dance@npt.gov.uk

Health & Safety Officer

Gareth Pennington
g.pennin@yahoo.co.uk

Education & Training Officer

Karen Chapman
k.chapman@npt.gov.uk

Communication Officer

Alison Lloyd
 01639 881635
a.lloyd@npt.gov.uk

Lifelong Learning Officer

Debbie John
 01639 685276
d.john3@npt.gov.uk

Young Members Officer

Dave Coleman
 0794 785 5039
daicole20@gmail.com

UNISON Direct Hotline

0800 0 857 857 (Freephone)
 Open 6am-midnight Monday-Friday
 9am-4pm Saturdays



Celebrating 25 years in UNISON

UNISON Member Benefits



UNISON can help in many ways both at work and at home:

Help from your rep As a UNISON member you have direct access to representatives, or reps, who are available to support you. There are different kinds of workplace reps and they can each help you in different ways.

There for You (UNISON Welfare) Members experiencing financial and emotional difficulties can contact our welfare charity, There for You, which provides a confidential advice and support service for members and their dependants.

UNISON lottery supporting There for You The 'Therefor you' monthly lottery (formerly Octopus lottery) is a great way of supporting the vital work of There for You.

Legal services UNISON provides quality legal services for employment-related and non-work issues at no extra cost to members and their family. In fact, UNISON provides the broadest range of legal help to union members in the UK.

UNISONdirect – the UNISON helpline If you need UNISON help or information fast and can't contact your union rep or branch, or don't know who they are, call UNISONdirect. This is the union's helpline for members, stewards, potential members and the general public

Professional registration Our professional services unit (PSU) represents members who are registered professionals and have their fitness to practise in their profession called in to question. We can represent any eligible member who is registered with a regulatory body in order to hold their professional title.