



# East Midlands Welfare Committee March 2016

## Regional Bulletin

Dear Colleague

Please find below the latest Welfare information, dates of upcoming events etc. I hope you will find this useful and informative.

Yours sincerely

*Georgie Burdett*

Georgie Burdett  
Chair of the Welfare Committee

### Death Benefit

At the Welfare Committee meeting in January we were asked to clarify the current rules regarding Death Benefit for UNISON members.

To qualify for death benefit you must have been in membership for at least 4 weeks prior to death and have no arrears of contributions.

Entitlement:

As from 1 July 2015 the death benefit shall be:-

Under 5 years of continued membership	£127.50
Over 5 years and less than 15	£255.00
Over 15 years and less than 25	£382.50
Over 25 years continued membership	£510.00

The above benefit will rise in line with the Retail Price Index (RPI) immediately after the National Delegate Conference each year. However if the RPI falls into a minus percentage the above benefit will not be reduced.

Conditions:

1. The death must occur whilst the members is in full membership.
2. The death benefit must be claimed within 12 months of the death by the personal representative of the deceased.
3. The benefit will be paid to the partner of the deceased; if no surviving partner, to any dependant or dependants of the deceased in equal shares; if none, to the estate of the deceased.
4. Ex members of NUPE who retire after 1 July 1993 and hold five years of service will have their entitlement to death benefit protected providing they maintain retired members status.

### Annual Welfare Forum

Our Forum this year will be held on Saturday 23 April at the Regional Centre, Nottingham between 10.00am—3.00pm. Further information, registration form and a form to self nominate to the Welfare Committee are being posted out.

### Welfare Officer Training

The next training course for Welfare Officers will take place on 10/11 May at the UNISON Centre, London. Closing date for applications is 28 March. For further details about this course see <https://www.unison.org.uk/content/uploads/2015/12/BWOs-training-info-Welfare-Webpage-2016.pdf>

### National Welfare Seminar

The national seminar will be held at Croyde Bay between 1-3 September. Further details will be issued as soon as they are available.

### Fun Walk

This years Fun Walk will be held on Sunday 15 May at Carsington Reservoir in Derbyshire. A flyer is being sent out shortly with details further details including how to register.

### Fund Raising

Our raffle at the Branch of the Year awards evening in January and tombola at the Regional Council AGM raised £509.50 for the Welfare fund.

Thank you to everyone who participated in these events.

### Octopus Lottery

A recent report from “There for You” highlighted how few branches in the East Midlands are members of the Octopus Lottery. If your branch isn't a member it would be great if you could consider joining and therefore regularly donating via Octopus to UNISON Welfare. Further details and the application form are available on the “There for You” pages of the UNISON website.



For further information on anything in this bulletin  
please contact

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<https://www.unison.org.uk/get-help/services-support/there-for-you/>