



11 November 2011

Dear Colleague,

Last week UNISON announced that our members had voted decisively in favour of taking industrial action to defend their pensions which are an important part of their terms and conditions of employment. Following a ballot of 1.1 million of our members there was a vote of nearly 80 per cent in support of the proposal for action.

Government ministers put forward plans to increase pension contributions ( in some cases by as much as 50 per cent); to reduce pension benefits and to increase the age at which pensions can be drawn. This comes on top of a wage freeze – many of our members have not had a pay rise for the last two years, despite rising inflation. For more information please go to <http://www.unison.org.uk/pensions/protectour.asp>

We will therefore be taking industrial action in the form of a strike on 30 November and our members would be greatly bolstered in their campaign by messages of support from our trade union sisters and brothers across the world. We would be grateful if you could therefore, send messages of support either to [IRelations@unison.co.uk](mailto:IRelations@unison.co.uk)

Thanks in advance for your support,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nick Sigler". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal stroke.

Nick Sigler  
Head of International Relations