



Community & Voluntary AGM Newsletter 2026

UNISON Community & Voluntary Branch AGM ~ It's about You, Your Branch, Your Say and Your Vote.

Our Branch AGM is the single most important meeting of the year. The AGM is your opportunity to have a say in how the branch is run and who will represent you in 2026. It is also a great opportunity to meet with other members and UNISON stewards and to find out how UNISON has been active on your behalf during the year.

If you would like to become more active in UNISON, representing your colleagues or becoming involved in solidarity or welfare work, please contact your branch (unisoncvbranchni@gmail.com).

In person AGMs:

- Belfast (Galway House, BT15 1AL), 6pm 24 March (Food from 5.30pm. 6pm start.)
- Derry~Londonderry (Foyle LGBT+ Centre. Rainbow Project, Waterloo House, Magazine Street, BT48 6HH), 6pm 26 March (Food from 5.30pm. 6pm start.)

Online (Zoom) AGMs:

- Monday 23 March 12.30pm
- Monday 23 March 6pm
- Monday 30 March 12.30pm
- Monday 30 March 6pm
- Tuesday 31 March 12.30pm
- Tuesday 31 March 6pm

Prize draws at all AGMs. Watch our social media accounts for more details. Merchandise goodies will be available at in person AGMs. Register for any of the AGMs [here](#) or using the QR Code.

Membership services

there for you Members experiencing financial and emotional difficulties can contact UNISON Welfare (There for You), which provides confidential advice and support services for members and their dependants.
<https://www.unison.org.uk/get-help/services-support/there-for-you/>

T Receive free legal advice and support on non employment matters from Thompsons, our specialist employment solicitors
THOMPSONS SOLICITORS
<https://www.unison.org.uk/get-help/services-support/legal-services/>

Quilter Request free expert financial advice from Quilter Financial Advisers, UNISON's financial services partner
<https://benefits.unison.org.uk/home/money/lighthouse-financial-advice/>

abbeyautoline AbbeyAutoline offers discount for UNISON members.
<https://www.abbeyautoline.co.uk/>



[Register for an AGM](#)

There for You (UNISON Welfare)

Members experiencing financial and emotional difficulties can contact UNISON Welfare, which provides confidential advice and support services for members and their dependants.

School Uniform Grant

Need help with the cost of kids' uniforms? Apply for a £75 voucher per school-aged child. Applications open May/June 2026.

[Read more](#)



Winter Essentials Grant

If you're a UNISON member on a low income, you may be eligible to apply for a £200 voucher for groceries.

[Read more](#)



Welfare at Work Week

UNISON's charity, There for You provides financial support and confidential advice for members struggling to make ends meet. Welfare at Work Week is here to celebrate this work and ensure members know what they can access should they need support.

[Read more](#)



The community and voluntary branch have had a very busy year working on behalf of members across Northern Ireland throughout the C&V sector. Whether it be supporting people through disciplinarys, grievances or contract negotiations we have been there for our members, and this will continue moving into 2026. Come along to one of our AGM meetings listed overleaf to hear more about our campaigns and how you can get involved with your union.

Contact Your Branch

Chairperson: Anne McVicker

Joint Branch Secretaries: Karen Walker and Deirdre Quinn

You can contact your branch and branch officers on unisoncvbranchni@gmail.com or find us on social media (Facebook: Unison Community and Voluntary Branch NI #5118)

2026 UNISON Year of Green Activity

The Year of Green Activity is our chance to highlight all the work we are doing to achieve net zero emissions and encourage you and your branch to actively get involved, make your voices heard and campaign for a just transition.

The Year of Green Activity aims to:

- Highlight why climate change is an important trade union issue in UNISON.
- Showcase the support we can offer to members to get involved.
- Increase the number of branch environmental officers across the union.
- Encourage formal and informal networks to support engagement on climate change.
- Profile environmental work on your branch agendas and explore the [bargaining issues in the workplace bargaining guide](#).
- Increase the number of members signed up to receive the Green UNISON campaign newsletter.

How can my branch get involved in the Year of Green Activity?

- Check the [Green UNISON campaign page](#) regularly.
- Sign up to the Green UNISON newsletter to receive regular update (via the campaign page above).
- Read the [Bargaining on Green Issues in the Workplace bargaining guide](#).
- Discuss with your branch ways in which you can mark the year in your own way.

"Tackling climate change can't wait until a more convenient time – there's too much at stake for our members, their jobs, their families and the communities we all live in – we have to act now."