





Dec 2017

### **UNISON CVO Branch Newsletter**



### Seasons Greetings to all our members from the CVO Branch

Wishing all our members a very happy Christmas and New Year. Many of you will be enjoying a well earned rest at some point during this festive period. However many of our members will continue to work providing essential services throughout. We hope that you all manage to get some rest over this period.

We are also aware that this period brings about extra financial stress for many of our members. Many of you are working hand to mouth throughout the year but the cold weather and other pressures make this time of year even more depressing.

UNISON charity 'There For You' offers some financial assistance and support to members in most need.

There for You provides Debt advice, Financial assistance, a Winter Fuel Allowance and other general advice.

Attached with this email are further details on There For You.

More information on the website is available here.

"Equality is an issue **everyone** faces in the workplace"

The next Equalities Steering Group is on Thursday 23rd November 2017 at 6pm—8pm.

If you would like to attend please contact the Branch equalities@unisoncvob.org.uk

### **UNISON National LGBT Conference**

Kim Brookes attended the LGBT conference as a Branch delegate;

This year I was the delegate from Community & Voluntary Organisations Branch I spoke on a number of motions two that stand out.

- 13, Non Binary Inclusion, I supported and stated that we were setting up an equalities forum to help those who do not wish to be covered by a SOG and how our branch wishes to be more inclusive.
- 32, Trans and Gender Non -Conforming in Schools, Colleges, University, I spoke about my experience as a young Transgender and the need for support from peers and teachers not just family.

Conference's special invited guest was Salford-based Nigerian asylum seeker Aderonke Aparta who finally received her leave to remain this year and talked movingly about her struggles to get her case heard, the situation which led to her leading the hunger strike in Yarlswood Detention Centre and the work she currently undertakes with the African Rainbow Family.

Her courage, determination and commitment have led her to become one of the country's leading voices in the fight for an end to the government's inhumane detention regime and appropriate treatment for all asylum seekers' I also know the Law Centre was involved in getting a Judicial Review regarding the detention centre.

Read Kim's full reports here.



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