

Unite in Hestia working for you



Wednesday 30th November 2022

HESTIA WORKERS AT HOUNSLOW LIFE SET TO STRIKE

Unite the Union workers at the Hestia service Hounslow LIFE are set to strike on the 12th and 13th of December.

Hounslow LIFE is one of the charity's larger services and supports over 600 of the borough's vulnerable adults.

KEY ISSUES

- **Caseloads.** Unmanageable caseloads have impacted on the mental health of workers and the quality and safety of the support delivered. We want a maximum of 15 clients per support worker.
- **Low pay.** We need an inflation proof pay rise that reflects the skill required for our work and is competitive enough to prevent further staff losses.
- **Trade union recognition:** Unite the Union now represents the majority of the workforce at Hounslow LIFE, however, Hestia continues to refuse to recognise the union.
- **Travel expenses:** Hestia's current procedure is unnecessarily complicated and has led to some losing thousands of pounds in unclaimed expenses.
- **Language skills compensated:** Many workers speak multiple languages, including BSL. This ensures the service can offer quality support to Hounslow's diverse population. We are requesting that staff are compensated for this essential work.



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Hestia so far has refused to come to the table and negotiate with Unite. They have also rejected an offer from ACAS (the government conciliation service) to bring the two sides together. Hestia's refusal to engage has led to the escalation of this dispute and is preventing a resolution being found.

Unite members at Hounslow LIFE will be taking strike action on the 12th and 13th of December unless progress can be made before then.

We welcome messages of support and donations to the strike fund.

Please get in touch with one of our workplace reps for more information:

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Hounslow LIFE workers with Mick Lynch, General-Secretary of RMT.



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