

## Sunderland bus strike talks scheduled



## We urge stagecoach to take the talks seriously

Talks between GMB Union, Stagecoach and conciliation service ACAS are set to take place tomorrow [Friday 11 November] in a bid to end the long-running dispute.

GMB has urged stage coach to take the talks seriously and improve the offer which has been repeatedly turned down by members.

Almost 200 bus drivers have taken several days of strike action already in anger over 'poverty pay'.



Sunderland bus strike talks scheduled Page 1 of 2

The dispute broke out after Stagecoach offered a massive real terms pay cut of just 4 per cent, with 2 per cent to follow later in the year.

## Stuart Gilhespy, GMB Organiser, said:

"We've finally got Stagecoach round the table and we urge them to take the talks seriously.

"Making the same offer over and over again, after it's been turned down repeatedly by members, is not negotiation and it's not going to end the dispute.

"The bus drivers are desperate for this dispute to end, but they need a pay deal to help them survive this cost of living crisis.

"Stagecoach makes lots of money and could end this tomorrow. For the sake of the people of Sunderland, let's hope they do."

## **Press office**

Member requiring help?

07958 156846

press.office@gmb.org.uk

Click to contact your local GMB Region info@gmb.org.uk



Sunderland bus strike talks scheduled Page 2 of 2