# GLASGOW WOMEN'S STRIKE GMB

# **800 MEMBERS** GMB & UNISON **ARE TAKING STRIKE ACTION** 23 - 24 OCTOBER



## GLASGOW WOMEN'S STRIKE GMB

## Why are we on strike?

Strike action has been triggered by Glasgow City Council's (GCC) failure to engage in meaningful negotiations to settle outstanding second wave equal pay claims.

The cost of the monies stolen from us by Glasgow City Council is estimated to be anything between £500 million and £1 billion.

Institutional discrimination against GCC's women has spanned generations and we have fought for a decade now against this injustice.

#### Why are we on strike now?

A process of negotiation itself was only made possible by the Court of Session judgment in August 2017 which said that GCC had failed to defend their job evaluation scheme and therefore that it could be discriminatory.

GCC's subsequent decision to drop the possibility of appealing the judgment then opened the door to a negotiation process with the joint claimant groups (Action 4 Equality, GMB and Unison and recently Unite).

Negotiations between the joint claimant groups and GCC officials commenced in November 2017 but nearly one year and twenty-one meetings later, no progress towards the delivery of a negotiated settlement has been made.

We're worried that GCC is hurtling towards a lowball offer just before Christmas to take advantage of the fact that many of us struggle to make ends meet due to GCC's low wages, especially around Christmas. We won't let this happen.

### What next?

In an attempt to blackmail members, the GCC Chief Executive has suspended negotiations until strike action is withdrawn. We don't believe that this is a reasonable response to claimants saying they are concerned about the progress of negotiations! We have laid out to GCC our plan to achieve actual progress so GCC can avoid action.

We won't be held to ransom or bullied into settling for far less than we deserve by the same officials who have tried to avoid just settlements through constant litigation and intransigence for the past decade.

Unless GCC step out of the ivory tower and meaningfully engage with the joint claimants for a negotiated settlement, the city will face significant shut-down of its front-line services as a result of strike action.

