

Paul Caines: Representation in Support of My Nomination as Unison Branch Chair

I would like to make my representation in support of my nomination to continue as Unison Branch Chair.

During my time as Chair, I have been involved in the agenda setting of Executive meetings, ensuring they run smoothly encouraging the engagement of Stewards and that union business is carried out efficiently and effectively.

I have been a Police Community Support Officer for nearly 20 years, also an acting Supervisor for 1.5 years. During that time, I have set up and ran many meetings with community groups, also with senior officers within Avon and Somerset. In these meetings I have had to chair them and in doing so I have been able to keep these meeting running in has proven to be respectful and productive so that all voices can be heard.

I have been a Unison steward for the past four years. During this time, I have remained fully committed to supporting the Branch and its members across a wide range of activities.

I have actively represented Unison by attending events such as the D-Day commemorations held across several police stations, as well as staff network events. I have consistently promoted Unison within the organisation, encouraging new membership and engagement with the union. In recent months, I have also stepped up to support the Branch to cover for the Discipline Officer due to the unforeseen absences of other Branch Officers.

Supporting members has always been at the heart of my role. I have provided advice and guidance across a range of matters, supported members through SAMs, challenged processes during meetings where appropriate, and represented members during PSD investigation processes. I have advised members and the organisation around issues affecting neighbourhood staff and I have an extensive knowledge of police policy and procedures.

I am passionate about continuing to represent and support our members and the Branch. I would therefore appreciate your vote and the opportunity to continue serving as your Unison Branch Chair.