

**Date: 5 November 2021**

**Title: Durham UCU ballot result on USS pension changes: vote in support of industrial action**

Dear Colleague,

The University has been officially notified of the result of the UCU ballot regarding proposed changes to USS, and would like to share this with you.

Last month, UCU advised us they would conduct a member ballot regarding proposed changes to the USS pension scheme and a separate ballot related to pay and wider issues. The ballot opened on Monday 18 October and closed on Thursday 4 November 2021.

**The University has received the result of the ballot regarding proposed changes to USS, with the vote in favour of strike action and action short of a strike at Durham.**

UCU is expecting the results of its pay and conditions ballot today (Friday 5 November 2021). After the results of both ballots have been received, the Union's higher education committee will meet Friday 12 November to decide the next steps.

Over the past few weeks, the University has planned for potential industrial action. Our focus will now be on making sure any impact to student education and staff workload is minimised.

We will be back in touch as soon as we have the result of the pay and conditions ballot. In the meantime, you can stay up to date at our [dedicated webpages](#).

Best wishes,

**Professor Antony Long**  
*Acting Vice-Chancellor*

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