



How Aspect supports our members

The services our members provide face their most serious onslaught within living memory. Inevitably too, jobs will be lost, and councils will try to erode contracts. Indeed, as many of you are all too aware, many services are already facing such scenarios.

In response, Aspect has stepped up our response to try to protect services, jobs and our members' pay, terms and conditions.

Although we are a relatively small trade union, we are recognised as having an influence well beyond our size.

We can help by:

- Supporting you in responding to local consultation proposals in ways that actually make a difference to services and jobs
- Arguing that members whose jobs are at risk should receive fair treatment in transfers to new jobs, and selection for new jobs and for redundancy – including for part time and fixed term contract staff
- Working to ensure the maximum number of staff made redundant go voluntarily, thus safeguarding as many jobs as possible for those who wish to remain
- Providing professional advice to those taking redundancy
- Seeking to protect the pay terms and conditions of those remaining – and safe workloads

We can do these more effectively if you work with us:

- To ensure we know about proposals for redundancy and restructure as soon as they are announced
- To accept that we will initially want to focus on the collective issues affecting many members and that this means some individual representation may be delayed a bit – but in return we are placing much more advice on the web
- To make sure there is a local Aspect representative (preferably) or at least someone who will be our local contact point to share information with members and ensure we know what is going on locally
- To liaise with other local unions – especially teaching unions and other Soughby unions, notably the Association of Educational Psychologists

In particular we ask that individual members:

- check with their local representative before contacting an Aspect regional official,
- note that all new inquiries should go via our head office rather than via each regional official. You can contact head office at 01226 383 428/0 or via info@aspect.org.uk

In return, we undertake to

- contact you within two working days of receiving your enquiry, either directly or via a local representative
- place the maximum amount of information on www.aspect.org.uk including through informative FAQs
- make sure you know what is going on following any meetings we attend and are involved in any Aspect decisions affecting you locally

Finally, remember, if you're not a member we can't help you.

We're growing and we're well respected. The more members we have the more we will be listened to.

- Ask your colleagues to join. If you're not a member, JOIN TODAY for the sake of yourself and your profession. You can join at <http://www.aspect.org.uk/join/> or if you would prefer a hard copy of an application form please contact head office at 01226 383 428/0 or via info@aspect.org.uk