



Arlene Thompson

I have worked for Northants Police for nearly eleven years and have been a member of UNISON since that time. I became a ULR (Learning Rep) as I wanted to encourage and facilitate members learning and personal development. It was while I was attending a training course relating to this that our tutor told us of a member he had represented following terrible treatment by a manager, I was so incensed by what had happened to this member I knew I also had to become a Steward so I could also stand up for those that needed support and for their voice to be heard.

Since being a Steward I have had the privilege of representing members in fairness at work meetings and also disciplinary hearings and I pride myself on being approachable and completely trustworthy. I make myself available to members I'm representing as it can feel isolating and scary to go through this process. I have become friends with those members I have represented and feel honoured they have trusted me.

I have also been the Branch Chair this past year which I have enjoyed and we have a great team in our branch who all work very hard for us all and have developed strong working relationships within the force. I attend conferences where I represent our branch and vote for the best interests of you all, something I take seriously. I also attend force meetings and awards evenings and recently helped to plan the branch budget for the year ahead.

In December I trained in Post Incident Management and will be there to support any of you should you be involved in one. This support may be over a very long period of time and I'm here for the long haul.

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