

## Branch Recruitment Report 2017/2018

Following the Branch Development Day in December 2016 the recruitment growth target was set at 15 %. That target was exceeded attaining 16% a net gain of 1%. In real terms that accounted for 144 additional members for the branch but offset with membership dwindling as staff left the force (figures are based upon the 12 month span from December to November of each year).

The branch is fast approaching the first quarter of the recruitment year and is currently just short of the target compared with last year's figures.

Plans are in place for a 'recruit a friend' campaign, which launches on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2018. Members will receive a gift voucher as will the new member as part of the campaign. Those participating will then be entered in a prize draw, the winner of which will receive a 'tablet'.

Key to the continued success of the branch is to identify and train further 'activists'. Alan Gates (Branch Organising Officer) highlighted that there was difficulty in obtaining local training for 'new activists' due to the limited number of courses held in Brighton. Although other venues are available e.g. Guildford and have been used this presents additional financial burden upon the branch in terms of travelling costs etc.

That said over the last 12 months three new activists have been identified and trained. We are pleased to welcome Jo Sykes who has been recruited to the team of permanent staff at the branch office.

Negotiations are still on going with Unison members within the Fire Brigade based at HQ to establish whether they would be 'best served' by our branch.