

Northern Health Branch AGM Newsletter 2024

Industrial Action

UNISON Northern Health Branch would like to thank all our members for participating in Action Short of Strike and Industrial Action. It has been our concerted effort to ensure our members voices are heard by the Secretary of State. By attending the picket lines in your numbers as you did, this gave a visual picture to the employers, media and general public of the level of your dissatisfaction.

You must be paid in line with your counterparts in England, we continue this fight with you until we achieve the desired outcome. We thank you for your attendance at our rally at City Hall where we joined by other UNISON Branches. We continued in December 2023 with our postcard campaign whereupon we took your personal messages and presented them at Stormont on your behalf.

We Want You!

As the largest branch in Northern Ireland we need to grow to support you, and we are seeking likeminded individuals who believe they could help their colleagues.

Are you kind minded? If so we need you!
Full training and all details can be explained by attending your AGM or calling one of the branch officers listed on this newsletter.

You will receive extensive training, support and ongoing mentorship with a branch development officer.



WANT YOU TO BECOME A WORKPLACE STEWARD!



Email northernhealthunison@gmail.com if you are interested or would like further details!

2024 AGM Meeting Dates

Our Branch AGM is the single most important meeting of the year.

Every year UNISON requires its branch officers and stewards to stand for re-election. The AGM is your opportunity to have a say in how the branch is run and who will represent you in 2024.

Please ensure you attend to have your voice heard.

Physical Meetings

Tuesday 25th March at 4pm
Estates Meeting Room, Holywell Hospital site

Wednesday 26th March at 4.30pm
Ewart Room, Holywell Hospital site

Online Zoom Meetings

Tuesday 25th March at
10am, 1pm, & 6pm

Wednesday 26th March at
10am, 1pm & 6pm

Our AGM online meetings will be held via the **Zoom** online platform. **Zoom** is free to download on tablet or smartphone, or can be accessed at <https://zoom.us/>.

1. Click here <https://shorturl.at/kJU07>
2. Scan the QR code
3. Access the Zoom website:
<https://zoom.us/>

Meeting ID: 853 6319 3336
Passcode: AGM24





Did you know?

- That 2024 is the year of the LGBT+ Worker.
- Your branch intends to promote further your rights and equality issues.
- UNISON strengths lie in its recognition of the value and unique experiences of our LGBT+ members.
- We are committed to raising the profile of our LGBT+ members in the branch. We want to see more LGBT+ Stewards coming forward.
- We will be running a number of events and have purchased a number of promotional items to celebrate with you this year.

Our Migrant Workers Family

Our Black and Migrant Workers group had a busy year in 2023 with information stalls, online seminars, and a conference on Mental Health & BME communities. We made significant progress on the issue of repayment clauses and highlighted the difficulties faced by members on sponsorship visas.

We are always keen to welcome new members! We have monthly online meetings and regular e-bulletins (please contact us if you don't receive them!) as well as a Facebook page.

English classes: IELTS and OET / regional office every Thursday.

Immigration advice: phone helpline via UNISON Direct (0800 0 857 857) or monthly face-to-face immigration clinic in our regional office.

Regional Contact for all information and bookings: Nathalie Donnelly (n.donnelly@unison.co.uk / 07554466958)

Membership Services

Quilter Financial Advisor

The branch will continue with the pension clinics provided in conjunction with Quilter financial advisors. Please watch our Facebook page for details and dates, or directly contact Gillian McGrath **07887788935** or email gillian.mcgrath@quilterfa.co.uk

UNISON Welfare – 'There For You'

The Branch want to remind you to use this service which is free to all UNISON members and is there for you at times of difficulty and crisis. For full details please see UNISON's website www.unison.org.uk/get-help/

Legal Advice

Thompson's NI - our specialist employment solicitors. For free legal advice and support contact **0800 0857 857**.

UNISON College

- College offer over 700 different course topics to our members each year. Ranging from in person accredited learning to virtual and eLearning CPD modules. We offer E learning modules through the skills academy and Nursing times CPD Zone. These are fully funded for all UNISON members.
- Additionally, we offer learning grants, funded places on K102 Open University modules, in person and virtual sessions.
- Our sessions can be booked via our app or by emailing educationni@unison.co.uk
- You can access our education grants; eLearning modules and application forms and pre-recorded on our website www.unison-ni.org.uk

**DO NOT SELL YOURSELF SHORT!
DO NOT WORK ADDITIONAL SHIFTS ON THE BANK!**

If your needed to cover additional shifts, your terms and conditions state you should be paid overtime. Have you been advised by Management that banking is the only way you will still get extra shifts? Everyone stick together and if no one works bank shifts then there is no alternative and overtime must be paid!

*UNISON is currently working at a corporate level to ensure the payment of overtime to all staff!
Do not change your contract to a bank contract – This offers you zero protections.*

Banding	Bank	Overtime
Band 2	£10.90	£16.35
Band 3	£11.85	£17.76
Band 4	£13.44	£20.16
Band 5	£16.84	£25.26
Band 6	£20.76	£31.14
Band 7	£24.38	£36.57

Our Priorities for 2024 are:

- Protect our NHS Services
- Secure a decent pay rise for all (leaving no-one behind)
- Enforce the correct AFC process.
- Build our Steward base.
- Give back to our branch members.
- Permanent Contracts
- Ensure Terms and Conditions are adhered to.
- Promoting our Education Programme

Update Your Details

Check your membership status by checking your pay slip for deductions or your bank for direct debit. If this is not up to date, then you may not be a UNISON member. Please contact membership services on **028 9027 0190** to update your details.

Branch Referral Line

For any new enquiries contact the Northern Health Branch Referral Number **07825411218**. Please leave your Name, Number and Issue in a voicemail if the call is not answered and our Admin Support will call you back to gather more details.

Branch Officers

Chairperson - *Stephanie Greenwood*

Joint Branch Secretary - *Jean Getty, Lorraine Gardener, Nicholas Shaw, Alison McConaghie*

Regional Staff

Regional Organiser – *Conor McCarthy 07887935136*

Area Organiser – *Noreen Robinson 07976217080*