

UNISON 2025 AGM NEWSLETTER

HEALTH AGENCIES BRANCH

Health Agencies Branch AGM 2025

It's about You, Your Branch, Your Say and Your Vote

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 2025

It is also a great opportunity to meet with other members and UNISON stewards and to find out how UNISON has been active on your behalf during the year. The AGMs will take place online and in workplaces.

If you would like to become more active in UNISON: Representing your colleagues or becoming involved in solidarity or welfare work, please contact your branch.

AGM MEETING DATES 2025

Tuesday 18th February
Gransha Park House Boardroom 11am

Wednesday 19th February
Boucher Conference Room

11am

&

James House
Meeting Room 2.6 , 2nd floor
12pm-2pm (drop in format)

Thursday 20th February
Online Zoom AGM @7pm
Joining details below or scan QR code to join

Meeting ID: 832 8246 8283
Passcode: AGM2025



UNISON

**NO LOW PAY IN NHS PAY
ONLY BETTER PAY WILL DO**

Pay Campaign

The UNISON NI Health Committee met in emergency session in mid November to receive the update on our pay parity campaign. Despite discussion at the Northern Ireland Executive, the logjam of the inadequate Department of Health funding to honour a full year of pay parity remained.

UNISON's goal is to achieve and retain pay parity from April 2024 and we will pursue this on behalf of our health workers.

UNISON met with the Minister for Health on 27th November, further meetings will be held in December to see if the money for the backpay for four months can be found.

When a formal pay offer is made UNISON will consult with their members.



Not yet a member? JOIN UNISON TODAY!
Call 02890270190 or go to www.unison-ni.org.uk/join



Our UNISON 'Free School Meals for All' campaign is a further important intervention aimed at reducing poverty for our members and their families.

We are increasingly concerned by the lack of visible progress on an Anti-Poverty Strategy. Despite the Executive having been restored in February, a draft Anti-Poverty Strategy has yet to be published, consulted upon and adopted.

UNISON has continued to work alongside our allies across civic society to press for an Anti-Poverty Strategy to be put in place without further delay, including through the launch of the report of the seminar held at Stormont in June 2023 on development of the Anti-Poverty Strategy that we reported on last year. UNISON was part of a delegation that gave evidence to the Committee for Communities at the NI Assembly in April regarding the urgent need for an Anti-Poverty Strategy. As a result of our campaign, the Education Minister recently launched a consultation on options for free school meals. UNISON will be submitting a response to the consultation. The consultation closes on 14th February.



Check out the full list of over **500 UNISON College courses** at this URL: bit.ly/2KzKJXA

Membership services



Members experiencing financial and emotional difficulties can contact UNISON Welfare (There for You), which provides confidential advice and support services for members and their dependants.

<https://www.unison.org.uk/get-help/services-support/there-for-you/>



THOMPSONS
SOLICITORS

Receive free legal advice and support on non employment matters from Thompsons, our specialist employment solicitors

<https://www.unison.org.uk/get-help/services-support/legal-services/>



Request free expert financial advice from Quilter Financial Advisers, UNISON's financial services partner

<https://benefits.unison.org.uk/home/money/lighthouse-financial-advice/>



AbbeyAutoline offers discount for UNISON members.

<https://www.abbeyautoline.co.uk/>



BRANCH NEWS

Over the past year, the branch has:

- Raised and resolved numerous health and safety issues;
- Attended health and safety meetings with the employer;
- Represented members at grievance and disciplinary hearings;
- Represented members interests at regional forums;
- Organised strikes and action short of strike for members in BSO and Arm's Length Bodies;
- Processed strike pay for our members who took part in industrial action;
- Held physical and virtual members meetings
- Held numerous stalls to speak with members in workplaces
- Held events and attended rallies to highlight days of significance to our members such as Pride, International Women's Day, World Mental Health Day and Menopause Awareness Day and attended numerous anti racism rallies

UNISON Self Organised Groups

Equality is at the heart of UNISON. We challenge discrimination and win equality in the workplace and beyond our equality work includes groups for members who experience particular types of prejudice and discrimination. These groups meet locally to discuss, campaign and organise around specific issues that affect them.

if you are interested in getting involved in one of our groups please email the relevant person below for more information.

Women's Committee d.mccusker@unison.co.uk
Young members aged 30 and under c.bolt@unison.co.uk
LGBT+ Group n.robinson@unison.co.uk
Black and migrant workers n.donnely@unison.co.uk
Retired members e.robinson@unison.co.uk

Branch Contacts

Joint Branch Secretary David Cassidy
07568937580

Joint Branch Secretary Kirstein Arbuckle
07807275122

Branch Chair Lorraine James
07540283973

Regional Organiser
Nuala Conlon - 07879641742 n.conlon@unison.co.uk

Area Organiser
Claire Bolt - 07817121374 c.bolt@unison.co.uk



For branch news follow our Facebook Page.
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