

Health Agencies Branch AGM Newsletter 2022

AGM 2022

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 2022.

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.

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

24th March 2022 @ 2pm
25th March 2022 @ 10am & 7.30pm

Our AGM 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/>.

You can join the AGM on Zoom in a number of ways:

1. Click Here: <https://bit.ly/3KBTlxY>

2. Scan the QR Code on a mobile or tablet

3. Access the Zoom website - <https://zoom.us/>.



SCAN ME

Join a Meeting

Meeting ID: 883 3810 6597
Passcode: AGM2022



For branch news follow our Facebook Page.
Search: **UNISON Health Agencies Branch**



The UNISON One Team 2k campaign called for a pay rise for all health and social care workers of £2,000 for everyone - fair, reasonable, simple and could be implemented quickly. We called on all Northern Ireland MPs and MLAs to support the campaign for a meaningful pay rise as the least they can do to recognise the dedication shown by all health and social care workers during Covid-19. UNISON Health and Social care members held a #OneTeam2k demonstration at Stormont on Thursday 30th September calling on politicians to support our campaign for a £2,000 pay rise.

The Health Minister then announced that the 3% pay offer, which we rejected, was being implemented and would be in health workers wages in January 2022. On Monday 6th December we launched a consultation with our members in the HSC. The consultation has just ended and the UNISON health branches will be meeting at the end of January to consider the way forward. Members will be fully briefed after this meeting. On 19th January the Health Minister stated that more money has been found in the Stormont budget and that NHS workers will receive a one off payment – 1.5% for Band 1 to Band 3; 1% for Band 5-7 and 0.5% for all others. UNISON has told the Department of Health and the Minister that with inflation running at 5.4% health workers deserve better. We have no further details to date on this announcement. As the lead and largest health union UNISON will continue to lead the other unions on the major issue of pay but also on safe staffing and the crippling overspend on the use of agencies to plug the holes in the health staff workforce.

Health Agencies Branch Supporting our Members

Over the past year the branch has:

- Raised and resolved numerous health and safety issues related to Covid-19
- Attended health and safety meetings with the employer
- Raised issues around working times and rotas
- Attended Joint Negotiating Forum with employers
- Held virtual members meetings
- Represented members at grievance and disciplinary hearings

NOT YET A UNISON MEMBER? JOIN TODAY!

Call Membership on 028 9027 0190 or join online <https://join.unison.org.uk>

Covid 19

UNISON would like to thank all our members for their continued support in the care of patients/clients and donors during this very difficult time.

Families and Friends of patients/clients and donors within the area recognise and appreciate the support and in some cases the comfort regularly provided by our members.

We send our sincere condolences to those who have suffered loss throughout the pandemic.

Update Your Details

Changed your name, moved house or have a new number? Do we have your email address? If not you are missing out on important updates and information.

You can update your details using our online form by scanning the QR code below or by emailing:

NI-RMSTeam@unison.co.uk

Check your membership status by checking your payslip 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 90270190.

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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.

There is also a Covid-19 Fund. For full details please see UNISON’s website.

www.unison.org.uk/get-help/

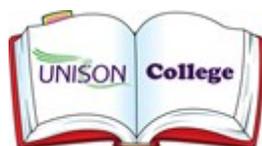
Legal Advice

Thompsons NI our specialist employment solicitors. For free legal advice and support contact 0800 0857 857

UNISON College

UNISON offers a wide range of free courses for members and reps to support you in your professional, personal and community life.

Find out more at <https://www.unison-ni.org.uk/education-and-training>



You can now download our New Education App <https://unisoncollegeni.org.uk>

Free School Meals For All

UNISON has established a Working Group comprised of reps from across health and education to take forward the development of a new campaign calling for universal free school meal provision for all children and young people.

The campaign’s objectives are:
Seeking universal nutritious free school meals for all pupils to both reduce poverty and improve public health;
To safeguard and promote the vital work of our members within schools catering. School meals services should be publicly provided;

In March 2021, UNISON NI launched the ‘All We Need is Lunch’ Art Competition as part of the wider Free School Meals campaign. Letters and materials were sent to every school and youth organisation in NI encouraging them to engage with children and young people on the issue of free schools meals, and asking them to support them to use the visual arts to explore what school meals means to them. It was a huge success with nearly 2000 entries. We now have a mountain of materials from the entries to continue on with our campaign.

We Want You!

We need to grow to support you, and we are seeking likeminded individuals who believe they could help their colleagues. Are you kind, compassionate and fair-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.

Latest Covid-19 Advice Public Health Agency:

www.pha.site/coronavirus

Occupational Health Helpline: 028 9063 0010

BRANCH CONTACTS

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UNISON Direct - 0800 0857 857