

Royal Hospitals & Muckamore Branch AGM Newsletter 2021



NHS Pay Rise - 2 Days for 2K

UNISON, the biggest union in the NHS is calling for an immediate pay rise for all NHS workers. We have submitted a pay claim to the UK Government at Westminster calling for **all workers** to receive an increase of at least £2,000 before the end of the year. This is the equivalent of around £1 an hour for all staff. When we surveyed our members, 70 % of our members said that a **£2,000** pay lift would make a 'substantial difference'. Your branch is playing a key role in advancing this campaign both at a regional level and at UK level. **Watch this space !**



For more information on your pay and our **No Going Back To Normal Campaign** join the AGM



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 2021. This year the AGMs will take place online due to Covid 19 restrictions.

It will still be 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 your union please contact your branch.

Branch AGM Dates

Tuesday 16th March 2021
5.30pm, 6.30pm, 7.30pm

Thursday 18th March 2021
5.30pm, 6.30pm, 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: <http://bit.ly/3iuTqPV>
2. Join via the Zoom app (free to download)
3. Access the Zoom website: <https://zoom.us/>

Join a Meeting

Meeting ID: 816 1772 2948
Passcode: AGM2021



UNISON College have 550 Free E-learning courses available for UNISON members. Check out the full list of courses here: <https://bit.ly/2KzKJXA>

Branch News

This year has been a busy year for the Branch and our members issues have been continuously addressed. As well as giving advice over the phone we arranged to meet our members face to face were possible during COVID and have supported our members during this difficult and challenging time.

We continue to raise Health and Safety issues on behalf of our members with the Trust. We have been at the front, fighting for the proper PPE for all our affected members.

Support services migration to Band 2

UNISON knows only too well that our industrial action last year remains incomplete. The branch has ensured that the removal of Band1 and the migration of all Band 1 staff onto Band 2 remains a top priority. Our members in support services have been inspirational during this pandemic and we will ensure our members get pay justice for their commitment to the NHS and the job they do. We thank our members for their patience regarding this important priority, however rest assured our members moving to Band 2 will happen.

Ending a casual workforce

The Branch has been very successful in working in partnership with the BHSCT filling all vacant posts on a permanent basis. Whether this be in support services, admin or nursing the best way to stabilise our NHS workforce for the future is to fill all vacant posts on a permanent basis alongside training and development. The NHS is being privatised from within. A casualised workforce is unsustainable and damaging the NHS. We will be involved in the nursing workforce planning strategy as part of the 2019 dispute resolution agreement. UNISON will consult closely with our nursing members to ensure our fantastic nursing staffs views are at the front, centre and end of this process

Log on to the AGM to get more information on these issues and more.

Thank You



We want to say thank you to all our members who have gave so much during this pandemic. We have lost colleagues, family and friends during these incredible times however despite this you our members still continue to give your all. When this awful period in our collective lives ends, which it will! We will reflect, rest and care for each other and our mental health. We will rebuild our NHS even stronger to meet the needs of our population. What we must not do, is return to so called normal. This would be an insult to those who have gave up so much.

UNISON RVH & Muckamore Branch Committee

International Solidarity

The RVH and Muckamore Branch play a key role in supporting international solidarity projects. We actively support projects in Palestine, Cuba, Columbia and wider Latin America. While we do respond to humanitarian calls for help our primary objective is solidarity, justice and human rights. The branch is twinned with AIDA refugee camp in Palestine. If you would like to get involved or for more information, contact the branch office.



Free School Meals For All



UNISON is campaigning for the delivery of universal nutritious free school meals for all children regardless of household income. We know our members working in school catering do incredible work and we want to ensure they are both recognised and valued for the work they do. Food poverty is a real problem in our society and our politicians cannot talk about an anti-poverty strategy if we don't have free school meals for ALL school children.

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;
- As a response to Covid-19 to build support for the implementation of a public health model across Government that is aimed at dealing with health and educational inequalities that have been exacerbated during the pandemic.

We have started a petition calling on the NI Executive to provide universal free school meals. **Link to the online petition is here:** <http://chnq.it/ycDBDYHJ>

Membership Services



UNISON members are entitled to a range of exclusive deals and discounts that we have negotiated with a number of suppliers. unison-ni.org.uk/membership-services

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 Visit the Branch Facebook page search.
UNISON Royal & Muckamore Branch