

Royal Hospitals & Muckamore Branch AGM Newsletter 2024

This has been a busy year for UNISON members who once again have had to take strike action over their pay. UNISON members in the health service are fed up with the current impasse in their just pursuit of pay parity. They have decided not to remain silent as politicians dither and delay a resolution of their political differences. They have resolved to continue demanding that the Secretary of State use his powers of economic governance to include funding for the restoration of pay parity.

OFFICIAL PICKET



NHS workers in England and Wales had their pay uplift since April this year.

Why should health staff in Northern Ireland have to wait? No amount of finger pointing at local politicians justifies this appalling situation.

UNISON members have no intention of staying silent or just putting up with it.



Update Your Details

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 9027 0190 to update your details or go to <https://www.unison-ni.org.uk/update-your-details>

Annual General Meeting 2024

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 2024.

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. Please come along and bring a work colleague.

- * Elect your representatives for another year;
- * Have your say in important work matters;
- * Hear what has been happening in your Branch;
- * Find out how you can become more involved.

AGM Meeting Dates

Royal Victoria Hospitals
19th March 2024
Sir Samuel Irwin Lecture Theatre
10.00 am
1.00 pm
6.30 pm
9.00 pm Night Shift Members

Muckamore Hospital
20th March 2024
Moyla Gym @ 2.00 pm

Light refreshments will be available, and all attendees will be entered into a prize draw!



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

Branch News

Over the past year we have continued to meet with management raising concerns around safe staffing, health and safety, and modernisation of services. We have represented members at meetings including grievances, disciplinarys and term-time applications. As Muckamore Abbey Hospital prepares to close, we have been supporting our members with redeployment. We attended rallies and demos throughout the year including International Women's Day, International Nurses Day and NHS Birthday. We held information stalls for our members.



We got successes when challenging the employer with Health and Safety concerns including menopause and site safety. A full report will be available at the AGM. If you have any health and safety concerns please speak with the branch.



We have been successful in getting members banding reviewed and pay upgraded through our Pay Max Campaign. This campaign is ongoing. To find out more about our **Agenda for Change Pay Max Campaign**, attend the AGM.

Some of our priorities during 2024 are:

- **Pay - Continue with our Pay Campaign to ensure pay parity for our members.**
- **Protect the NHS and the services we provide.**
- **Enforce the correct AFC process and therefore improve outcomes for our members.**
- **Addressing Health and Safety Concerns.**
- **Build our Steward base.**

Free School Meals For All



Our Free School Meals For All campaign remains a priority for our branch. If you would like more information on the campaign or to get more involved, contact the branch.

Branch Contacts

UNISON BRANCH OFFICE

Opening hours: 9.00am—2.00pm, Mon—Fri

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 **UNISON Royal & Muckamore Branch**

International Solidarity

While we watch the horror unfold in GAZA, our branch has continued with its solidarity work. We held a candle lite vigil and a lunchtime demo and have been attending rallies every weekend. A full report will be available at the AGM. To find out how you can get involved contact the branch.



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

Black and Migrant Workers

UNISON has a dedicated network for Black and Migrant Workers. Please see *UNISON NI Migrant Workers page on Facebook* or contact n.donnely@unison.co.uk for further information.

Our group holds on-line monthly meetings and sends out regular e-bulletins to all Black & Migrant Worker members in our region. We offer free weekly English preparation classes in the Belfast office (IELTS and OET) and provide access to immigration advice via UNISON Direct (phone helpline 0800 0857857); or through monthly face-to-face appointments locally (n.donnely@unison.co.uk)



LGBT+ Committee

UNISON's LGBT+ committee has been busy this year attending Pride events across Northern Ireland including the 1st ever Pride in Causeway and the 30th Anniversary of Foyle Pride. Next year marks the year of the LGBT+ worker, if you would like to get involved or find out more information please contact the branch.

BECOME A UNISON REP

- Challenge workplace issues
- Make your voice heard
- Offer advice and support

Interested in becoming a rep?

To get more information and register your interest go to:

www.unison-ni.org.uk/get-active-become-rep



