

South and East Belfast Health Branch AGM Newsletter 2022

#OneTeam2K



The UNISON One Team 2k campaign is calling for a pay rise for all health and social care workers of £2,000 for everyone. It is fair, reasonable, simple and could be implemented quickly.

We demand that all Northern Ireland MPs and MLAs 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.

Following a report back from recent meetings with the Health Minister and Department of Health Workforce Directorate officials, UNISON's Health Service Group Committee consulted members on industrial action. UNISON's Head of Bargaining Anne Speed clearly put on the record that that 3% does not meet our claim for year 2021/2022 and that members would reject the pay award.

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 90270190 to update your details.

Changed your name, moved house or have a new number? You can update your details using our online form. Go to <https://www.unison-ni.org.uk/update-your-details>

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. 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 29th March
1.00pm
or
7.00pm

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/3AzeYDZ>
2. Scan the QR code on your mobile or tablet
3. Access the Zoom website: <https://zoom.us/>.



SCAN ME

Join a Meeting

Meeting ID: 816 4554 5543
Passcode: AGM2022



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 Update

This year has been a busy year for the Branch challenging privatisation, unsafe staffing, job relocations and protecting services. We have supported our members with grievances, disciplinaries and concerns with their professional registrations, NISCC and NMC.

We have attended weekly meetings with the Chief Executive of BHSCT discussing issues staff have during this very worrying and difficult time.

We have met on a regular basis to raise your concerns with management in the following disciplines

- ACOPS, Daycare, Mental Health
- Learning Disability, Nursing Workforce
- Admin & Clerical, Domiciliary Care
- PCSS, Transport and Estates

We have continued to improve the pay of members ensuring they are paid correctly for ALL the work they do. We have been very successful in getting members pay upgraded and work is continuing in other areas. We have also been successful in obtaining an uplift for nurses from band 6 to band 7. To find out more about our **Pay Max Campaign** join the AGM

Private Sector

Our membership continues to grow in the private sector. We have been negotiating on behalf of members who have been treated unfairly during this period, and we will continue to challenge any employer where our members' rights are under attack.

We have been successful in campaigning to ensure that members receive at least 80% of their pay due to Covid absence.

Homecare and IDSS

This year is probably the hardest year we can remember for the Domiciliary Care Service. You have been at the forefront of Covid, putting your clients first at all times. We at UNISON thank and applaud you for all you have done for us. We remember too our colleague Shirley who sadly paid the ultimate price.

We have continued to work on your behalf ensuring you have appropriate PPE, negotiating with management on all aspects of the review of homecare and IDSS including, mandatory training, workforce planning and recruitment.

We have been successful in negotiations to increase contracted hours to at least 25 hours for drivers and walkers within the homecare service. We continue with our negotiations for IDSS staff to have their hours increased to 30 hours per week while maintaining their existing terms and conditions.

Talks are continuing with management around the use of technology and IT equipment for community staff.

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

Free School Meals For All



UNISON has established a Working Group comprised of reps from across health and education to take forward our 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.

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



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