

## UNISON Black and Migrant Worker members' bulletin – Spring 2021

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### 1. UNISON recruit a friend competition – win £50

If you recruit a friend to become a UNISON member, you will both be entered into a prize draw to win a £50 gift voucher each! No limits. Recruit 5 friends and get 5 entries into the draw!

**The competition will run weekly during the month of May 2021.**

To enter the competition, new members must either:

- Complete an application form, write the full name of the person/friend who recruited you along the top, and return it to UNISON Galway House, Belfast; or
- Join on-line and then send an email to [unisonnorthernireland@unison.co.uk](mailto:unisonnorthernireland@unison.co.uk) Title your email 'Prize Draw' and include your own name and the name of the person/friend who recruited you.

For more information contact your local branch.



## 2. Northern Ireland Affairs Committee: Call for evidence on the experience of minority ethnic and migrant people in Northern Ireland

The Northern Ireland Affairs Committee have launched an enquiry and would welcome the submission of written evidence on:

- **the experiences of minority ethnic and migrant people living in Northern Ireland;**
- **the challenges that minority ethnic and migrant people face in Northern Ireland;**
- the steps the UK Government can take to help ensure effective racial equality legislation in Northern Ireland;
- the health and economic outcomes of minority ethnic and migrant people in Northern Ireland, and the steps the UK Government can take to help improve them;
- successful initiatives and programmes to encourage cultural exchange and diversity among people in Northern Ireland;
- people's experiences of applying for the EU Settlement Scheme.

### How can you take part?

- You can **send a submission to the committee yourself directly** before Friday 21<sup>st</sup> May: <https://committees.parliament.uk/call-for-evidence/453/the-experience-of-minority-ethnic-and-migrant-people-in-northern-ireland/>
- Or you can **contribute to our UNISON NI submission** by email us information / experience you would like to share with us to inform our submission (email [N.donnelly@unison.co.uk](mailto:N.donnelly@unison.co.uk) subject: NI Affairs Committee enquiry. *All information will be treated as confidential and quotes used in our report will be anonymised*). Please send information by wed 12<sup>th</sup> May
- Or.. come and **join us at our next meeting where we will be discussing our contribution to the submission!** (*Please note this is for UNISON members only*)  
Wednesday 12th May @ 4.00PM  
Please register using the zoom link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMuf-mqqz8uGNDIBcSU0IHnstx7XvA-zA7W>

We are particularly keen to hear about experiences on:

- Racism / racist discrimination at work
- Racism and racist attacks (incl issues around housing / tensions where you live, etc.)
- immigration issues

- family life (childcare provision / annual leave / isolation)
- impact of Covid
- impact of Brexit
- and any other issues you want to highlight

### 3. Tackling Racism in the Workplace

Belfast City of Sanctuary, Irish Congress of Trade Unions, Migrant Centre NI and UNISON, invite you to an **online seminar on Tackling Racism in the Workplace**.

The seminar will have speakers from the Equality Commission, ICTU and UNISON, and there will be opportunities for you to engage.

**Thursday 6th May**

11:30am via Zoom

**To register** please contact: [belfastcityofsanctuary@gmail.com](mailto:belfastcityofsanctuary@gmail.com)

**Zoom** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85254090328?pwd=VWlqVGVhU0F6NjV0UW1YVEJTWER3QT09>

Meeting ID: 852 5409 0328 Passcode: 657960

### 4. ICTU May week programme of events

**May Day** - Saturday 1st May

11 AM

**Cavalcade of cars** with Trade Union flags from UNISON offices in Belfast circling City Hall

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2PM B&DTUC

**Solidarity video Messages and music online**, including a message from the Cuban Ambassador.

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/belfasttradescouncil>

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8 to 10PM

May Day evening **online Quiz**

Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83148212142Meeting#success>

**Challenging Racism Here and Now** - online conference

WED 5TH MAY, 7PM

Ivanka Antova / Siphon Sibanda / Alexis Ekwueme / Coumilah Manjoo

Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84590056494Meeting#success>



► [Full programme](#)

For more info: [belfasttradescouncil@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:belfasttradescouncil@hotmail.co.uk)

[Twitter.com/bdtuc](https://twitter.com/bdtuc)

[Facebook.com/belfasttradescouncil](https://facebook.com/belfasttradescouncil)

## 5. UNISON B&MW Group

At the end of March, UCHT and Craigavon UNISON branches organised a zoom meeting to welcome new members and encourage more B&MW staff to join UNISON. Members were given information from the branch and our group. We hope to organise similar meetings in other branches in the coming weeks and months, so check our [facebook page](#) for details.

As mentioned above the **next meeting** of our group will be on zoom on **Wednesday 12th May at 4PM**

**New members more than welcome.** Please register on:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9198919891>

## 6. EU migrants – deadline coming soon for Settled Status applications!

Please remember that the deadline for Settled Status applications is **30<sup>th</sup> June!**

If you still need to apply or if you have any question on your status post Brexit – you can contact one of the support organisations. Advice NI [euss@adviceni.net](mailto:euss@adviceni.net) / Stronger together [euss@strongertogetherni.org](mailto:euss@strongertogetherni.org).

Get help with your application in your own language:

<http://migrantcentreni.org/euss-immigration/>

UNISON members can also make a referral to the immigration solicitor on [wider immigration issues](#). Contact n.[donnelly@unison.co.uk](mailto:donnelly@unison.co.uk) to book an appointment or call UNISON Direct for the JCWI Immigration phone helpline. 0800 0 857 857

## 7. Check UNISON NI courses coming up

UNISON courses are still all running online.

Download the app or go to <https://unisoncollegeni.org.uk/courses/> to see the list of courses happening in May / June and to register.

### **ADDICTION - UNDERSTANDING PRESCRIPTION / OVER THE COUNTER DRUGS MISUSE**

**Tuesday 4th May 10am-1pm**

This course will give participants an understanding of how prescription and over the counter medicines are misused. It will provide an overview of the types of medicines as well as information on the prevalence, effects, risks to the user, harm reduction methods and services available. It is relevant to anyone who works/volunteers with those with addiction issues, with young people and also may be of interest to parents.

### **Get involved in UNISON**

**Wednesday 5th May 6pm-8pm**

We are a Union of over 1 million women, play your part. If you are interested in becoming more active in your union but are unsure how or would simply like to know a little more about UNISON join us. This session will be participative and take place in small workshops and is open to all women members.

### **LEG ULCER MANAGEMENT STUDY SESSION, MODULE 2 - LEG ULCER AETIOLOGY**

**Monday 10 May from 12.00 - 1.00pm**

This module looks deeper into the aetiology of leg ulceration. This includes Venous, Arterial and Mixed Leg Ulcerations. The module outlines, with EBP, what a leg ulcer is and how we, as HCP's, can identify factors that contribute to venous, arterial and mixed aetiology leg ulcers. The module also outlines the signs and symptoms of venous, arterial and mixed ulcerations. This will be delivered by Urgo Medical

### **Human Biology**

**Tuesday 11th May 12.30pm - Participants must attend the first session**

This topic is broken into 45-minute sessions delivered over 12 weeks and gives participants an understanding of the foundation principles of human biology. It is recommended for those hoping to progress to a nursing degree or nursing

students about to begin their second year.

The Course will be delivered by Dr Wesley Stirling.

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMude2spjooHdLL24ooD3UANQrGkz6yVyUR>

## 8. UNISON UK wide events

- The UNISON National Black Members Committee are holding a **Meet and Greet zoom session**.

This event is open to all Black members from the following regions and Self-Organised Groups (SOGs) - South East, South West, Cymru/Wales, West Midlands, Yorkshire & Humberside, Northern Ireland, LGBT+ and Disabled SOGs

You can register your questions in advance of the meeting by emailing [bmca@unison.co.uk](mailto:bmca@unison.co.uk), stating 'session B' in the subject line.

21st May 2021, 2pm – 3pm

Register for Session B:

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMtde2hqj0rHd1IzUYHvGzRAL9lbfMg8bM6>

- Read how UNISON will be responding to the **Sewell Report** [here](#). Roger Mackenzie has also written a [blog](#) addressing the report.
- The Communications Team have published an article (with a statement from the committee) on staying safe during **Ramadan** which can be found [here](#).
- There is a growing humanitarian crisis on the **Caribbean island of St Vincent** that could continue for many months. Approximately 20% of people have been displaced due to volcanic disruption. If you would like to help, please contact one of the groups across the UK who are supplying essential resources such as hygiene kits and water filtration systems. There is also a fundraiser set up by the UK-SVG Friendship Trust here - <https://gofund.me/90dbdc94>. Our thoughts are with everyone affected.

## 9. Stand up to Racism UK event

Stand Up to Racism invite you to join their week of action to commemorate George Floyd's death one year on. More details: <https://fb.me/e/1rbU6mlqJ>

See their full statement following the verdict [here](#).