



Issue 274 17th - 20th December 2019



WINTER FUEL GRANT

Members living on a low income constantly struggle to make ends meet – and this can be particularly acute in the winter when the cost of heating homes rises as the outside temperature falls.

But it's not all bad news – help IS available. The union's welfare charity **There for You** has once more set up a limited fund to help members on low incomes towards the cost of their winter fuel bill through a one-off payment of £40.

The process is very similar to previous years and an amount of money has been ring-fenced to support this initiative. However, once it's gone it's gone! **[Details are here.](#)**

It's An Unfair COP

The STUC's Francis Stuart represented the ITUC as unions, environmental NGOs, indigenous peoples, youth, and others presented critical statements at the close of the UN Climate Talks in Madrid. Video **[here](#)** (STUC 9 mins in) ITUC statement **[here](#)** "This COP has failed the people and the planet. As Stop Climate Chaos Scotland **[point out](#)** this piles pressure on for the next meeting in Glasgow

People power, climate Justice!". BBC overall report [here](#). More detail on the [UNISON Scotland Blog](#)

UNISON COMMUNICATION AWARDS

The annual competition for good work in communications is now open to all branches and self organised groups. [More details here](#)

PICK OF THE MEDIA

02/12/19

Holyrood.com

Cuts don't come by themselves... they bring stress and rising sickness absence in the workplace with them [More here](#)

21/12/19

commonsense.scot

UNISON calls on Scottish Government to enforce Living Wage for Third Sector care workers. [more here](#)

UNISON's General Secretary Dave Prentis Blog

**PUBLIC
WORKS:
TOOLKIT**

Public Works is the UNISON Scotland campaign for jobs, services, fair taxation and a Living Wage... and against austerity. **This toolkit** provides branches with campaign resources to save our public services from the cuts driven by an austerity that is a political choice not an economic necessity.

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