



Issue 315 31st May - 6th June 2021

Covid recovery requires investment in services

If there is to be economic recovery from Covid – the quickest, most effective and sustainable way of boosting the economy is investing in our public services.

The social case for mobilising resources into public services is obvious. Even before Covid hit we had worsening and overlapping crises of inequality in health and education, inadequate housing and employment and mounting environmental pressures. Addressing these issues through rebuilding services makes economic sense too as it is the fastest way of putting demand into local economies.

The Scottish Government has said both that it will rely on a business led recovery – accepting the results of the Higgins Review (our take on that here) AND that they are in favour of Community Wealth building. It is a Community Wealth building approach that will deliver – both short term and longer term. We have outlined some our views of how we can begin to build a recovery that is genuine and sustainable recovery – and some ideas best avoided.

Local Government staff after a year of Covid

It has been a year of massive upheaval in for Local Government workers. We surveyed UNISON members across Scotland's councils and the results show a workforce coping with unprecedented change

The results are published in our new report [One Year of Covid](#). It shows the impact on our members mental health, stress and workload. Which have not been positive - staff had made huge efforts over the last year and that should be acknowledged with greater support and fair pay settlement.



UNISON Scotland Green Network

Everything you need to know about Green UNISON Week 18-26 Sept, Green Network 29 June, Stop Climate Chaos Scotland coalition's [ClimateFringeWeek](#), Strathclyde pensions divestment and more [all here](#)

Updated Agenda For Change Pay Rates: effective from December 2020

General Secretary's Blog: Levelling up the forgotten frontline

UNISON welcomes ceasefire and urges international action to end the occupation



George Floyd's murder, one year on

UNISON is supporting the TUC and Stand up to Racism's call for action to mark the anniversary of the murder of George Floyd, to challenge racism and continue the fight for racial justice in workplaces and in wider society. More info [here](#).

UNISON's special conference – latest update

STUC forthcoming events

PICK OF THE MEDIA

28/05/21 ier.org.uk

Trade union membership rises for fourth year running.

27/05/21 humanrightstracker.com

New online tool by EHRC to help track how well the UK Government is putting their human rights duties into practice.

26/05/21 stuc.org.uk

STUC report **'Who is Winning from Covid-19'**

26/05/21 morningstaronline.co.uk

Excellent news!

26/05/21 unison.org.uk

UNISON joins campaign to optimise AHP support workers.

Our champion of champions



Support for family and friends of deceased members

We want you to know that if you're the family or friend of a UNISON member that has died, we're here to help.

Coronavirus: your rights at work

Read our Q&A



UNISON members in Scotland who need advice during Coronavirus



Please speak to your workplace rep first. If possible.



Glasgow: 0141 342 2899

Aberdeen: 01224 620624

Inverness: 01463 715891

When you call us you will be asked to leave a message, please do and we will get back to you as soon as we can.



For membership enquiries: 0131 226 0090
membershipassistancescotland@unison.co.uk

UNISON
Scotland



Welcome to UNISON Scotland learning!

Here is our calendar for the courses for first 6 months of 2021.

Build your skills with our national programme UNISON Learning - a whole range of courses for our members.

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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.