



Issue 326 6th -12th December 2021

Why is so much of Scotland's care budget ending up in the Cayman Islands?

... because we let it happen.

We have allowed care to become a business - a business run in a lot of cases by financiers and hedge funds. Tonight's Panorama Crisis in Care: Follow The Money- using a UNISON commissioned report explains how so much cash earmarked for providing care here ends up in bank accounts in sunnier, lower taxed climes. It's not at all clear that the Scottish Government's proposed National Care Service will remove companies like this from the scene. They should lose no time in providing an assurance that it will.

UNISON wants social care to be provided on a not-for-profit basis. If it is good enough for the NHS, it should be good enough for an NCS. The Scottish government says it supports 'ethical commissioning', so we need hard detail and solid commitments from ministers that these sorts of companies, that have failed so badly in the last couple of years, aren't part of any national care service in the future. Care should be a service to the vulnerable - not a commodity in a market.



**STUC Pre Budget Rally
Wednesday 8th December 2021,
Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh
Assemble 11:30, Rally with speakers 12:00**

UNISON Scotland members will be joining the STUC's pre budget rally on Wednesday

Public service workers have carried Scotland through the Covid-19 pandemic. Public services, especially those delivered through councils, are vital to Scotland's resilience at a time of crisis. They are also the key to Scotland's recovery. We need public service investment, not cuts.

The rally will call for all political parties to support increased funding for public services. Public service workers are facing wage cuts, rising prices and job losses. We need above inflation rises for public service workers and a fair deal for local councils.

Delivering a Just Transition

Public services use considerable amounts of carbon. Investing in public services can both reduce their direct footprint and contribute to how other areas of society can reduce theirs (oh... and create jobs). UNISON's report [*Getting to Net Zero in Public Services: The Road to Decarbonisation*](#), shows that, public services still reeling from a decade of austerity, will struggle to decarbonise.

In the absence of a significant capital injection of funds public services will only be able to move slowly towards net zero - we can do so much better than that if political will match political rhetoric.

Public service workers want an ethical local government pension fund

In a [UNISON survey](#) of over 6000 local government pension fund members almost 9 in 10 (88%) are calling for their pension funds to be invested ethically. The Local Government Pension Scheme in Scotland holds assets worth over **£46 billion**.

88% said that they wanted ethical issues taking into account in where their pensions were invested and 83% said they wanted fossil fuel issues taken into account in where their pensions were invested. [More of our findings here.](#)

[UNISON vote settles 2021 local government pay dispute](#)

[General secretary's blog: The members helping us weather the storms](#)

[Fight for Fairness end of year rally 15 December 2021 5:30pm-7:00pm webinar](#)

[New Jimmy Reid Foundation paper 'Beyond 'Just Transition''](#)

Women in Scotland's Experiences of Sexual Harassment

As part of 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence and our commitment of building a safer and equal world of work for all - the STUC Women's Committee have launched a survey to gather Women in Scotland's views on and evidence of their experiences of Sexual Harassment at Work in Scotland. Take part [here](#).



PICK OF THE MEDIA

02/12/21 tuc.org.uk

[Making flexible working the default.](#)

02/12/21 privatisationwatch.com

[Privatisation Watch - alerting on global privatisation of government services.](#)

01/12/21 dailyrecord.co.uk

["We're delighted to have secured an improved pay offer for our members which rightly puts more money into the pockets of those on the lowest pay.](#) Johanna Baxter, UNISON's head of local government.

01/12/21 peopleoverprof.it/

[The Global Care Crisis - Care Manifesto: Rebuilding the social organisation of care.](#)

29/11/21 morningstaronline.co.uk

[Local government funding cuts in Scotland must end or economy will worsen, says Cosla.](#)

29/11/21 epsu.org

[Vaccinate the world !!](#)

7 reasons to join UNISON



Financial assistance for our members

UNISON's charity for members, There for You relaunches its COVID-19 response fund to include universal credit cuts.



Welcome to UNISON Scotland learning!

Here is our online education programme for July to December 2021. Build your skills with our national programme UNISON Learning - a whole range of courses for our members.

Coronavirus: your rights at work

Read our Q&A



UNISON - ALWAYS WITH YOU

Join UNISON now ▶



Update your UNISON details



0800 0 857 857

To take part in our consultations,
surveys and ballots, we need accurate
information: **your work, email & mobile.**

Copyright © 2016 UNISON. All rights reserved.

If you have any questions or comments, email: [UNISON Scotland Week](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)

