# UNISON WEEK

News and views from the biggest union in Scotland's public services



Issue 337 16th - 22nd May 2022

#### Dangerous staffing levels in Borders hospitals

UNISON has written to every politician representing the Scottish Borders to highlight "dangerous staffing levels" in local hospitals. It has been reported on the BBC TV News. Staff are unable to take proper rest breaks or log serious incidents in the reporting system and working conditions are regularly in breach of regulations. "This letter and BBC article is about the NHS Borders but could be about any other health board in Scotland right now." – Greig Kelbie, UNISON regional organiser. Read more on this here.

General secretary's blog: No surprise at a Queen's Speech that delivered nothing

The UNISON annual report 2021/22

### **TUC Cost of Living National Demonstration**



Inflation hit a 30-year high. The cost of living crisis is affecting every part of our lives and pushing more and more people into extreme poverty and hardship. UNISON is calling on members to join the union and the rest of the union movement on a <u>national day of action</u> at events across the UK on Saturday 18 June organised by the TUC. All details <u>here.</u>

TUC demo: Seven bonus reasons to enjoy a day out in London

# Recognise, Respect Reward

Fair Pay Campaign for Local Government Workers



2022 Year of Disabled Workers webinar - Disability Leave

The UK government must invest properly in our nurses

#### **PICK OF THE MEDIA**

13/05/22 bbc.co.uk

"We are getting regular messages from our members to tell us about the pressure they are under - and that they can't cope" Greig Kelbie, UNISON's regional officer in the Borders.

13/05/22 eastlothiancourier.com

"It's appalling that staff have to fight for the Scottish Living Wage" Deborah Clarke, UNISON regional organiser.

11/05/22 morningstaronline.co.uk

Scottish council elections - a bad night for us all.

13/05/22 theguardian.com

The UK's appallingly poor sick pay rules - bad for all of us

11/05/22 dunfermlinepress.com

Fife Council braced for industrial action after unions prepare to ballot over pay.

11/05/22 itspublicknowledge.info

**Current investigations** by Scottish Information Commissioner.

06/05/22 bbc.co.uk

"This has been a difficult time for staff, particularly for those who raised the allegations of bullying and inappropriate sexual behaviour" Kirsty Johnston, the UNISON area organiser for Sepa,



#### **Energy Support Appeal**

Helping low income and vulnerable members with rising energy costs

## There for You launches the Energy Support Appeal

There for You is launching their **Energy Support Fund** to help members through the cost-of-living crisis. In order to support as many members as possible over this year, they are asking for donations from branches.



#### **UNISON Scotland Activist Education**

UNISON has a proud history of providing high quality learning opportunities for our members. We work with trusted national institutions like The Open University and the Workers' Educational Association (WEA) and a host of local providers, and we also deliver informal learning in-house.

Our online education programme for May to December 2022 is **here.** 

#### 7 reasons to join UNISON



# 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.