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**Issue 248 4th - 10th February 2019**

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**Statement after Scottish Budget Bill Stage 1 Debate.**

Mike Kirby, Scottish Secretary said: "This deal does not maintain funding for even current levels of public services. We of course welcome any extra funding being proposed, however the local government settlement falls short of what UNISON and COSLA agree is necessary to maintain even current council services.

"UNISON welcomes the move towards reform of local government funding, this is something UNISON has campaigned on for many years. We will play our full part in the discussion to come, and would urge the Scottish government to start work on this as soon as possible.

"We do have concerns around the planned workplace parking levy. This seems to devalue the contribution of council workers and other staff, as they too, like their health service colleagues, deliver vital services to the public.



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**Public Services Futures Winter 2019**

The [latest issue of Futures](#) focuses on the impact of austerity on public services in Scotland. [Download](#) to read about the impact of cuts to Environmental Health teams and ASN support. There is an [update](#) on the early years expansions and proposals for a Transient Visitors Tax.

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Our snapshot survey '[Just Another Day](#)' examined attitudes and experiences for NHS staff across the UK during one working day – the 24 hours of Tuesday 18 September 2018. Watch our new film below



#### Equal Pay Update - Latest News

As we [reported previously](#), UNISON Scotland is proud to have reached an agreement in principle to a package of payments to resolve historical claims for unequal pay with Glasgow City Council.

We have produced a really helpful '[Frequently Asked Questions](#)' leaflet on the proposed deal for UNISON members with Glasgow's equal pay claims.



Join UNISON Now **0800 171 2194**

**UNISON began 2019 as the UK's biggest and best union. That's a remarkable achievement when you consider everything that has been thrown at UNISON and the public service workers..**

**Just look at just a small fraction of what we've achieved:**

- UNISON defeated Employment Tribunal fees and gave all workers access to justice.
- UNISON is leading the campaign against the government's Universal Credit and Tax Credit changes – winning changes for low paid workers worth thousands of pounds.

- UNISON is out there working for our members on equal pay, social care, mental health, training, organising and recruitment
- UNISON continues to lead the fight against racism and all discrimination, campaigning for dignity and respect for all.

### **That's why workers need Trade Unions**

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### **Pick of the Media**

29/01/19 [holyrood.com](http://holyrood.com)

[Holyrood's Local Government Committee calls for stronger targets to help those in extreme fuel poverty.](#)

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29/01/19 [theguardian.com](http://theguardian.com)

Billions of cuts from disability, housing, in-work and child benefits, and deep poverty is the [all-too-predictable consequence.](#)

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29/01/19 [twitter.com](http://twitter.com)

We're not normally fans of the revolting billionaire gabfest that is Davos but yeah - [What he says... and then what she says.](#)

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### **Violence Against the Ageing Workforce Survey:**

The Scottish Pensioners' Forum, are carrying out a project looking into workplace bullying in an ageing workforce. The survey is available [online here](#) or a paper version is [here](#).

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**Read the latest from UNISON's General Secretary Dave Prentis on his blog [here](#).**

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**PUBLIC  
WORKS:**

[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

# TOOLKIT

that is a political choice not an economic necessity.

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