



**Issue 251 11th - 17th March 2019**

## Scottish Government Debate: Fair Work Action Plan

The [Fair Work Action Plan](#) contains key pledges for 2025 and we hope to see ongoing strong commitment from the Scottish Government to deliver quickly on these. Workers who need protection and action cannot afford to wait and should not be made to do so.

The STUC, in [welcoming the plan](#), noted the importance of "ensuring that Fair Work is mainstreamed throughout the Scottish Government's role as a provider of major contracts and grants for business." We agree, and with the STUC comment about looking forward to working "with the Government and other stakeholders to develop collective and sectoral bargaining across the economy with the key sectors of social care and early years and child care; hospitality; and construction as the initial focus."

We urge MSPs to insist that the Scottish Government moves swiftly to implement the recommendations of the important report [Fair Work in Scotland's Social Care Sector 2019](#). This Fair Work Convention report makes clear that thousands of women working in social care face [unfair conditions](#) including having to work excessive hours, on low pay, on insecure - often zero hours - contracts, frequently doing unpaid overtime. Such exploitation is unacceptable.

As UNISON Scotland Convener Lilian Macer, who co-led the report, [said](#): "This reports calls on the Scottish Government to take



urgent action to bring about a radical overhaul of social care and to use fair work principles to drive high quality services for some of our most vulnerable people.”



### Scotland in UNISON No: 136 March 2019

Our latest Scottish Council Activists' Bulletin covering:

- Exposing the 'silent slaughter' of services. Branches challenge budget cuts across Scotland's councils;
- Report says social care workers deserve fair work and fair pay;
- Glasgow equal pay victory explained;
- Glasgow women win as Communications Awards celebrate work in branches;
- Best council pay offer in a decade;
- UN Anti-Racism Day Glasgow rally 16 March Glasgow;
- Joint Utilities: Just Transition to cleaner energy will avoid the past mistakes of lost industries;
- Praise for Nancy at her last equality course

**ALL SCOTLAND DEMONSTRATION**

# UNITED AGAINST RACISM & FASCISM

**SATURDAY 16 MARCH**  
George Square, Glasgow, 11am >> [bit.ly/SUTRscotM16](https://bit.ly/SUTRscotM16)

PART OF INTERNATIONAL PROTESTS FOR UN ANTI RACISM DAY

### New Scottish Young Members Committee

The [Scottish Young Members](#) held their annual development weekend at Stirling University 1-3 March 2019. Fifteen branches were represented and a variety of workshops were held including Creative Campaigning.

Sexual Harassment, Motion Writing, Presentation Skills and the Impact of Fake News.

Congratulations to Millie Davidson who was elected as the new Chair at the AGM, with Martin McVey taking up the Vice Chair position. 2019 is [UNISON's Year of the Young Worker](#) and the committee are keen to work with their branches on events relating to this.



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**Local Government pay deal signed off with CoSLA** [details here](#)

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### **Pick of the Media**

*10/03/19 unison-scotland.org*

[STUC Youth Committee & Scottish Cuba Solidarity invite you to celebrate 60th anniversary of Cuban revolution. 21 March, STUC, Glasgow.](#)

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*10/03/19 scotsman.com*

[John McDonnell pledges 50,000 Scots jobs in green industrial revolution.](#) See our [Labour Link Twitter](#) for #ScotLab19 reports incl [SCCS fringe](#) & our [housing fringe](#).

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*09/03/19 heraldscotland.com*

[Four Living Wage accredited Scots colleges named and shamed by union over poverty pay.](#)

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*06/02/19 unison-scotland.org*

[UNISON Applies for Statutory Recognition in Cornerstone.](#)

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*06/03/19 tuc.org*

[Gender pay gap means women effectively work for free for more than two months of year.](#)

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

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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.

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