



Issue 304 18th - 24th January 2021

UNISON elect first woman General Secretary



Christina McAnea has been elected as general secretary of UNISON, the UK's largest union. Christina is our first female General Secretary. This, as she was the first to point out, is a big deal...**but it shouldn't be.**

This means Christina is the union's most senior negotiator, with a wide-ranging public services brief covering health, education, social care, local government and equalities.

She has held senior positions across the union, negotiating on behalf of members working in police forces, schools, universities and colleges, and the NHS. Having grown up in Drumchapel, Christina is well acquainted with the situation in Scotland. Although based for a number of years in UNISON's HQ in London she has been a frequent visitor to her home city, most notably in recent years when she addressed the rally during the **Glasgow Equal Pay Strike.** (pictured)

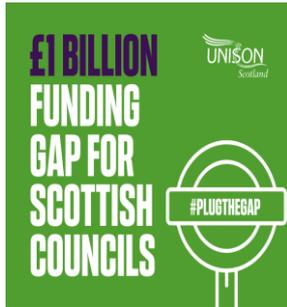
Starting as she means to go on - Christina will be making the case for a decent pay rise for all NHS staff at a virtual rally in support of UNISON's One Team 2K campaign **details here**

Culpable Homicide Bill

Workers aren't soldiers - death should not be an occupational hazard. Yet corporate indifference and greed kill people on a regular basis. On Thursday MSPs get the chance to improve the law in a way that will make big business pay more attention to the risks faced by staff by voting for Claire Bakers members

bill on Culpable Homicide. We urge all MSPs to do so.

Currently people are more protected from the risk of death through the conduct of individuals than they are protected from death as a consequence of the conduct of organisation, particularly larger organisations. Indeed it seems that the larger the organisation the less the public are protected from their conduct under the criminal law. That isn't a situation the Scottish Parliament should allow to continue.



Join our campaign to protect your council services and those who deliver them

The Scottish government must fund local councils properly to keep communities safe and rebuild the country following the pandemic. We have launched a **campaign, #PlugTheGap**, to call on the Scottish government to find additional resources for Scotland's councils to avoid devastating harm to services that have already suffered ten years of budget cuts.

Local Government Trade Unions submit 2021 Pay Claim to COSLA

Activist Training Course Programme 2021

Petition for equal treatment for all covid responders

Evidence: Scotland's economic performance The contribution of place based economic development zones



Evidence: Disabled Children and Young People (Transitions to Adulthood) (Scotland) Bill January 2021



Strathclyde University are carrying out some research into the ongoing impact of the Pandemic on Mental Health amongst the Health and Social Care Workforce in Scotland. More details and link to survey [here](#).

PICK OF THE MEDIA

14/01/21 unison.org.uk

TUC survey reveals 71% of working mothers denied furlough.

12/01/21 scottishleftreview.scot

Our Convener Lilian Macer looks back on a year of failings and flaws in the battle against COVID-19.

08/01/21 unison.org.uk

Three out of four carers don't earn the living wage. UNISON vice president Sian Stockham is a carer and she's leading the union's campaign to raise their pay.

05/01/21 unison-scotland.org

Scottish government must honour second vaccination dates or risk wasting thousands of vaccination slots, says UNISON

15/01/21 morningstaronline.co.uk

Outsourcing really delivers value...[oh](#)

**Coronavirus:
your rights at
work**

Read our Q&A



**COVID-19
response fund**

we're there for you

there
for you

UNISON
the public service union

If you are a member and you are experiencing financial difficulties, whatever the circumstances, **There for You** can offer you support. We can provide one-off grants to those in difficulty due to coronavirus, or other financial assistance for those experiencing unexpected hardship.

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



Learning in Lockdown

Make the most of staying at home and learn with us - we've got loads of free online courses for members

[> find out more](#)

UNISON - ALWAYS WITH YOU

Join UNISON now ▶



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.
