



Issue 308 15th - 21st February 2021

Feeley Review of Adult Social Care

UNISON is the largest trade union in Scotland, and the largest union among Scotland's care workforce. We represent over 10 000 members delivering social care in the public, private and third sectors, both care at home and residential care. On the whole, they are treated appallingly. MSPs will be aware that it took emergency legislation to ensure that care staff receive even basic sick pay provision (paid for incidentally by the public purse rather than the employing businesses and due to end when the legislation is repealed).

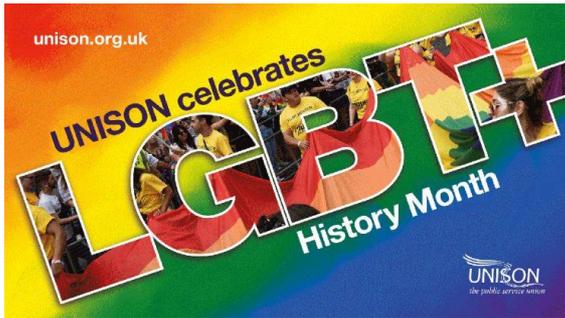
It is welcome that there is a strong emphasis throughout the report on improving staff conditions, and an entire chapter on Fair Work. The report is correct in linking improvements in the treatment of the workforce with improving the standards of care. (our summary of the report is [here](#))

There are of course big questions – is the proposed undermining of Local Government wise? Is a structure, that leaves the bulk of care paid for the public but delivered for a profit is the best we can do? The purchaser/ provider split didn't work in the NHS and it's failed so far in adult social care is that really what we want to keep at the centre of things? Does a structure whose purpose is "an actively managed market" deserve the NHS evoking title "National Care Service"?

These wider issues may be controversial – but that there is a need to improve conditions for staff to improve the quality of care is beyond contention. It is a task that can and should be set about immediately..

NHS Staff Deserve A Pay Rise #OneTeam2K





LGBT+ History Month is more important than ever, as the pandemic adds to the isolation felt by many LGBT+ people as a result of their gender identity or sexuality. [Read more.](#)

PICK OF THE MEDIA

14/02/21 morningstaronline.co.uk
Free Abdullah Ocalan

12/02/21 unison.org.uk
Vaccinate, don't hesitate!

12/02/21 communitycare.co.uk
Social care failed by lack of PPE during first wave of pandemic, say MPs

09/02/21 ft.com
A thoughtful **commentary on automation**

08/02/21 personneltoday.com
Pay care workers in full when sick, urges UNISON

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.](#)



Get help to keep warm

UNISON's There for You Winter Fuel Grant programme for 2021 opens on Monday 25 January. Grants of up to £200 will be available to help UNISON members with fuel bills.

Coronavirus: your rights at work

Read our Q&A



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for you

COVID-19 response fund

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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
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UNISON
Scotland



Learning in Lockdown

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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.