



Issue 299 23rd - 29th November 2020

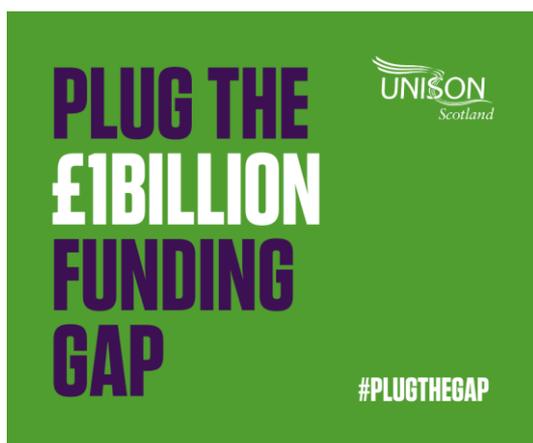
Autumn Statement - No Going back to Normal

Being the 25th of November means that the Chancellor can call it an Autumn Statement, and be correct (just). However he can't go announcing a pay freeze and seriously expect people to believe him when he says there will be no going back to austerity. Whilst his pay policy won't affect many public service workers in Scotland - it does send a worrying signal about how he intends dealing with the economic fallout of Covid-19. UNISON has been quite clear that there can be [no going back to normal](#), because that just wasn't working. If there should be any lesson learned from Covid 19 it is surely that public services aren't a burden to be borne but an investment in what matters

Period Poverty Bill

We were early and enthusiastic supporters of this proposal. UNISON Scotland has a large number of women members on low incomes. We believe it is essential that all women and girls, but in particular those living in poverty, should have a right of free access to sanitary products.

Scottish Government Covid 19 Regulations, Level Four Safe Workplace Guidance





STUC St Andrews Day Online Rally Against Racism: Saturday, 28 November at 11am

Full details and registration [here](#).



Why NHS Workers Need a pay Rise

UNISON are looking for Jeane Freeman to make good her promise of awarding workers something this calendar year. We urge Health Secretary Jeane Freeman to meet with us as a matter of urgency and get this resolved – we need to pay up now for health workers. More on our Pay Up Now campaign [here](#)



UNISON's general secretary Dave Prentis argues that after years of being undervalued and under paid, the public service workers that have saved the country during COVID, can't be left behind again.

November is Young Worker's Month!

Good social work in a time of Covid – join our free Webinars

UNISON Scotland's Social Work Issues Group has set up one hour monthly lunchtime webinar series which will look at front line social work in Scotland – and how a commitment to social justice and good practice can be maintained in difficult times. It is open to all social work members, students and staff and will cover radical social work, the Independent Care Review for Children, poverty and inequality, and the crisis in social care for adults.

More information and joining details here

General Secretary's Blog: Blog: You are doing your school and your union proud

Kim McLachlan - It is with deep regret and sadness that we learned on Wednesday that our colleague and friend Kim McLachlan, former branch secretary Housing & Care branch, has passed away ... [read more](#).

PICK OF THE MEDIA

20/11/20 unison-edinburgh.org.uk

Pay freeze is slap in face for key workers - UNISON City of Edinburgh

20/11/20 morningstaronline.co.uk

Congress 2020 was a v different affair to usual for the STUC.. Much comment and analysis (inc from UNISON's Stephen Smellie) [here](#)

20/11/20 tuc.org.uk

More young workers lost their jobs during summer 2020 than in all of 2019.

20/11/20 unison.org.uk

Pay restraint in England is a 'cruel blow' for those working tirelessly in the pandemic, says UNISON

19/11/20 heraldscotland.com

Brian Smith, UNISON Glasgow Branch Secretary **"The UNISON Branch firmly believes that schools and early years establishments should not be fully operational during Level Four.**

16/11/20 ier.org.uk.

Seems for some Trade Unions are still **the enemy within** . Prof Keith Ewing on the disgraceful Covert Human Intelligence Bill.

**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

UNISON has increased the number of online courses. [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.