

FIGHT TO END LOW PAY IN NHS & CARE

UNION ACTION FOR 15%

WE FIGHT FOR:

- An immediate 15% pay rise for all health and care staff including those in privatised sectors. Minimum wage of £12 an hour - £15 in London. Scrap zero-hours contracts immediately
- Reverse all privatisations. Scrap the Private Finance Initiative and cancel all PFI debts. Bring all outsourced workers and services in-house on a permanent contract
- A fully publicly funded NHS and care system free at the point of use. Scrap prescription charges in England, dental and all health charges.
- Nationalise the private health care sector, care homes, the medical supply industry and the pharmaceutical companies - integrate them into the NHS
- Reinstate student bursaries and scrap tuition fees in England
- We can't trust pro-privatisation, pro-austerity, anti-working class politicians. Fight for the building of a new mass workers' party
- Unite and fight the institutionalised racism of the bosses. Black Lives Matter!
- A socialist NHS - democratically run by elected and accountable committees including service workers and users
- A socialist planned economy to end oppression, poverty and inequality



**LOBBY THE TUC FOR A FIGHT
FOR JOBS AND PAY**

**SUNDAY 13 SEPTEMBER
1PM ON ZOOM**

The National Shop Stewards Network is holding its annual rally at the time of the TUC Congress, which because of the COVID-19 pandemic has been truncated. This year's NSSN event will be virtual but it has never been more important for fighting trade unionists to link up.

shopstewards.net

Join the fightback

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SOCIALISTS**

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DISCUSSION AND DEBATE
OVER FOUR DAYS
20-23 November 2020
socialism2020.net



Join the Socialists **FIGHT FOR SOCIALISM**

Nurses and all health workers are demanding a 15% pay rise and the Socialist Party calls on the trade union leadership to support this demand with a campaign of trade union action.

This must include making the TUC in September a 'council of war' to discuss and plan the campaign of action needed to defend and fight for the NHS, as well as the safety and jobs of all workers.

With inflation taken into account, many health workers are 20% worse off in real terms now than they were a decade ago. Over half work unpaid hours every week. The current pay deal, due to run until 2021, meant the majority of workers only got a pay rise of 1.65% in April 2020 – so a mass struggle is needed.

The NHS has suffered decades of austerity and privatisation under Tory and New Labour governments. There is a chronic shortage of beds, staff and resources. Privatisation rendered care homes into ruthless slaughter houses during the pandemic. Massive cuts have eroded social care and public health.

The NHS was in no fit state to deal

with the pandemic. It was mainly due to the dedication of health workers that the situation was not much worse. But the impact on care generally has been catastrophic.

Waiting lists have increased from 4.5 million to eight million since April! The stark fact is that because of the relentless attacks on the NHS, people in their thousands have died and will continue to die unnecessarily.

The Tory government is also using Covid to accelerate the privatisation of the NHS. Contracts continue to go to private hospitals to deal with 'elective' care while NHS beds remain empty. All private health contracts, including PFI, should be annulled and privatised services brought back into the NHS.

The big pharmaceutical and medical equipment companies should be nationalised to guarantee research, production and supply of medicines, vaccines and treatments cheaply and efficiently. No compensation except where there is proven need.

Testing and tracing must also be taken off the profiteers and placed in

the hands of fully funded and trained localised public health tracers and labs now. The labour movement must fight for testing and tracing as a prerequisite for a general return to work and school. Full pay and practical support for anyone told to isolate.

If the Tories have shown little regard for the NHS as a public service, this also applies to its staff. The recent pay rise excludes many health workers. It's only through trade union-led struggle, including industrial action, that we can secure a significant pay rise, full staffing, and decent conditions for workers.

This is also necessary to end the neglect of social care and return it to the public sector, democratically controlled by the care workers and families. Care workers must be paid at least £12 an hour and the scandal of zero-hour contracts ended.

And it's only through mass workers' struggle, linked to fighting for a mass working class political voice, that we can establish a fully funded, publicly owned and democratically controlled NHS – a socialist NHS.

FOR FIGHTING TRADE UNIONS!

**Hugo Pierre, a Black members rep on the Unison NEC
(personal capacity, below) says:**

- We won't pay for the Covid-19 crisis!
- For a re-nationalised NHS and social care sector with full collective bargaining and national terms and conditions
- Local authorities: a national fight for £10 billion funding - fight all cuts and demand Labour councillors don't vote for cuts
- Reverse all education privatisation. Academies back to local authorities. Full funding for further and higher education
- For a real fight on public sector pay to reverse the 'austerity years' pay cuts - for a £15-an-hour minimum wage
- Jobs, homes and services for all, not racism. Black Lives Matter!
- Not a penny of members' money to Labour representatives who back cuts, privatisation or austerity
- For genuine members' control of our union, with the election of union officials
- For a trade union fight to end environmental catastrophe
- For a general secretary who does not take the £138,000-a-year salary, but lives on a worker's wage

