The NHS is facing unprecedented pressures. The Tory Government are continuing their devastating cuts which are seeing more and more NHS Trusts fall into deficit, and private companies are reaping the benefits.

Huge contracts are now being put out to tender, allowed under the Tories’ Health and Social Care Act, under a veil of secrecy. Once contracts are awarded, there is little front facing evidence of privatisation as the NHS badge is still used by private companies.

Since 2010 NHS staff salaries have reduced by around 14% and there are now 25,000 nursing and 3,500 midwifery vacancies in NHS England alone.

The Government, under Theresa May’s leadership, is facing yet more austerity which will lead to a real risk to the safety of patients and the ability of the NHS to provide a world class service.

Over the past weeks Theresa May has been pandering to Donald Trump, US President, and she has said that nothing can be ruled out of trade talks, including the NHS. This opens the very real possibility that US corporations will get a stranglehold of the NHS.

Unite, along with other trade unions and organisations, will be taking part in a national demonstration on 4 March 2017 in London to defend the NHS from these unprecedented attacks.

NATIONAL DEMONSTRATION
SATURDAY 4 MARCH 2017

#ourNHS
no cuts | no closures | no privatisation

Book Unite transport at www.unitetheunion.org/March4NHS
Karen Reay
Regional Secretary

We are in such uncertain times. We are seeing, before our eyes, the devastation of our NHS. As well as working in the NHS for over 20 years, I was also Unite’s National Officer for Health. Throughout my career I have never been more concerned about our NHS and its ability to deliver now and in the future. It is in crisis!

We must all take a stand and defend our NHS, so join us on the 4th March in London to say “It’s Our NHS!”

SUCCESS AT HUSQVARNA

Over 60 of our members at Husqvarna, a high end chainsaw and lawnmower maker, recently commenced an overtime ban and work to rule as part of a dispute over pay. The action, which saw management and office staff coming in over a weekend to work on the machines, resulted in a revised pay offer which was put to the vote of the membership.

The initial offer of 2.3% and a one off payment of £300 was firmly rejected by our members. Following the action, the offer was improved to a two year deal of 3% for year one (backdated to 1 September 2016) and, for year two, 3% (or RPI + 0.2%), depending which is higher.

Workers based at Husqvarna, based at Newtown Aycliffe, County Durham, accepted the new offer when it was put to a vote.

Mark Sanderson, Unite the union regional officer, said “The commitment of Unite members and their attention to detail and flexibility has powered the company to a record year and secured its reputation for producing fantastic quality products.

“Our members are now working normally and the product quality can be assured at the very high standard it has always been. Our members stood together and, with minimal losses, they achieved the result they wanted and are very pleased with the outcome”.

“Our members stood together and, with minimal losses, they achieved the result they wanted and are very pleased with the outcome”
Unite the union in the North East, Yorkshire and Humberside is providing transport to this important national demonstration on 4 March 2017. Find out below how to book.

If you’re a member in the North East...
Book your transport using this link
https://goo.gl/forms/IJXxxP-cgs4ildeLn2

If you’re a member in Yorkshire and Humberside...
Book your transport using this link
https://goo.gl/forms/jztGIUE-0fousmyFg1

Alternatively, email neyh.4thmarch@unitetheunion.org and we’ll email the booking link to you

4TH MARCH 2017 - LONDON
Campaigners protest against plans to slash Humber health visitors by 25 per cent

Health campaigners and concerned families joined our members on Wednesday 1 February to protest over Humber NHS Foundation Trust’s plans to slash health visitors and school nurses by 25 per cent.

The protestors, fearful of the damaging impact that the reduction in specialist help will have on babies and children, urged board members of Humber Foundation Trust to rethink their plans.

The protestors gathered outside the headquarters of the Humber NHS Foundation Trust over the plans aimed at cutting £500,000 from the specialist public health nursing budget.

Under the plans which are currently being consulted on, the number of full time equivalent health visitors will fall from 51.3 to 38.64, while school nurses will be cut by three per cent to just over six full time equivalent roles.

Unite regional officer Malcolm Hancock said: “Over the course of a year health visitors and school nurses working for Humber NHS Foundation Trust help thousands of families throughout the area.

“Because of the trust’s deep cuts this support and specialist help for families in greater need will be reduced alongside support for issues like domestic violence and safeguarding.

“It’s a totally self-defeating move which will harm children’s health and end up costing the trust more in the long run because of a reduction in preventative health measures.

“Coming at time when child health in the UK is falling behind many other European countries, we would urge the trust to think again and ditch its plans to slash this vital service.”

A recently published report by the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health found that young people in the UK had low wellbeing compared with other comparable countries.

The State of Child Health also found that poverty left children from deprived backgrounds with far worse health and wellbeing than children growing up in affluent families.

In 2015-16 40 per cent of children in England’s most deprived areas were overweight or obese, compared with 27 per cent in the most affluent areas. “Because of the trust’s deep cuts this support and specialist help for families in greater need will be reduced alongside support for issues like domestic violence and safeguarding”
NATIONAL EQUALITY EDUCATION COURSES

UNITE WOMEN’S NATIONAL WEEK
Where: The View Hotel, Eastbourne
When: 19 November – 24 November

LGBT EQUALITY AT WORK
Where: Esher Place
When: 20 February - 24 February

DISABLED MEMBERS’ EQUALITY, TRADE UNIONS AND WORK
Where: Eastbourne
When: 13 March – 17 March

ORGANISING FOR EQUALITY IN TODAY’S WORKPLACE
Where: Esher Place
When: 3 April – 7 April
9 October – 13 October

DIGNITY AT WORK
Where: Esher Place
When: 15 May – 19 May
18 September – 22 September

BLACK AND ASIAN ETHNIC MINORITY LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT
Where: Esher Place
When: 5 June – 9 June

You can apply for any of these courses from the national education department at education@unitetheunion.org or by visiting the website.

EXCLUSIVE DISCOUNTS FOR UNITE MEMBERS

WITH UNITE THE UNION DISCOUNTS YOU CAN SAVE ON EVERYDAY PRODUCTS & SERVICES!

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JOIN TODAY!

WWW.UNITETHEUNIONDISCOUNTS.COM

join Thousands of members today!

unitetheuniondiscounts unite_discounts
ARE YOU ELIGIBLE TO PAY A REDUCED CONTRIBUTION RATE TO UNITE?

Analysis conducted by the Institute for Fiscal Studies has found that workers in Britain have faced the longest squeeze on pay for 70 years. Describing the situation as “dreadful”, the think-tank reported that we have had more than a decade without real earnings growth and have not seen a period remotely like it in the last 70 years, and possibly the last 100.

The low pay rate is for members whose basic hourly pay is below the Living Wage (currently £8.25 per hour out of London and £9.40 in London) and whose normal weekly net earnings are below £300 or aggregate gross P60 earnings (across all employers) are less than £16,000 per year (indexed annually).

To apply the relevant evidence is required in the form of one of the following with your application form:

- Latest P60
- 3 x wage slips – three consecutive payslips, not more than three months old

Existing members are eligible to apply for the Low Pay rate if they meet the criteria.

Contact your local office for assistance.

HERE’S HOW UNITE LEGAL SERVICES IN OUR REGION HELPED OUR MEMBERS IN 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EMPLOYMENT</th>
<th>Cases referred</th>
<th>Cases concluded</th>
<th>Damages recovered</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cases referred</td>
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<td>298</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cases concluded</td>
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<tr>
<td>Damages recovered</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>PERSONAL INJURY</th>
<th>Cases referred</th>
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<td>Cases concluded</td>
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<tr>
<td>Damages recovered</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OTHER LEGAL SERVICES</th>
<th>Settlement Agreements</th>
<th>Free Wills</th>
<th>Free half hours</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cases referred</td>
<td>260</td>
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<td>1203</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cases concluded</td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Damages recovered</td>
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</tbody>
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Remember to keep up-to-date with Unite Legal Services at www.unitelegalservices.org
4 benefits of Unite membership

1. **FREE INSURANCE**
   - As a benefit of your union membership you can register for **£5,000 Free Accidental Death Cover**. Cover is for UK residents aged 18-69. 12 months free cover. Renewable. Always FREE.
   - Register today at [www.UniteProtect.com/JE](http://www.UniteProtect.com/JE)

2. **PROTECTION INSURANCE**
   - Female Cancer Cover, Health Cash Plan, Travel insurance, Car insurance and Personal Accident Covers available. Designed with union members in mind.
   - Call **0800 652 8902** to get a quote today or visit our website [www.UniteProtect.com](http://www.UniteProtect.com)

3. **Unite REWARDS**
   - **Discounts & Cashback** on your internet shopping from 100s of retailers.**
   - Register **FREE** at [www.UniteRewards.com/special](http://www.UniteRewards.com/special)

4. **Unite PREPAID**
   - **Earn 2.5% to 6% cashback** in-store or online at Argos, Boots, Sainsbury’s, ASDA & many more** with an Unite Prepaid Plus Cashback card.
   - Apply today at [www.UnitePrepaid.com/special](http://www.UnitePrepaid.com/special)

Eligibility and terms and conditions apply to all products.

The Accidental Death Cover is underwritten by Advisent Insurance PCC Ltd – UIB Cell.

*Your free welcome bonus is paid once you reach your first cashback total of £25.00. Your cashback will be paid automatically to your registered account each time you reach a cashback total of £25.00. **Range of brands, level of discounts and cashback are subject to change.

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