22.05.2020

Dear member,

UNISON and its members are rising concerned that the Trust will try and permanently impose changes in working practices implemented during the COVID pandemic.

Some changes have been significant and would possibly need job descriptions changes such as the Clinical Supervisor and Patient Transport Service roles across Yorkshire.

The concerns include the South Yorkshire Clinical Supervisor trial started before the lock down which cannot just be implemented without consultation.

RRV Paramedics not using their skills, being used as extra relief, with little information of when they will return to normal duties.

All changes to policies and procedures need to revert back to their previously agreed status.

Major issues have also arisen regarding the booking, taking and cancelling of Annual Leave, we urge the Trust to sit down with UNISON to discuss so that no members are disadvantages due to the current situation. This includes members who have had booked holidays cancelled and are being asked to re book them for next year.

UNISON reminds the Trust that at the height of the pandemic members were actively encouraged to cancel leave in all areas.

The increased use of private providers both on PTS and A&E during the pandemic cannot be allowed to continue.

UNISON urges the Trust to clarify that none of these changes will be permanent and all members will revert back to normal working practices, providing timescales.

There are agreed policies and procedures that must be followed before changes are formally implemented.

Agreed changes are needed to constantly protect ALL our members in EOC, 111 and support services around social distancing when the lock down measures are eased

UNISON Yorkshire Ambulance Branch will keep you informed of the Trusts response.