

UNISON Direct 08000 857 857

Yorkshire Ambulance Branch

Number 16, 25th October 18

***UNISON Weekly Update***

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| **Privatisation by the Back Door**The NHS continues to face unprecedented financial pressures. Some trusts in England are seeking to save money by creating wholly owned subsidiary, also known as subco’s, companies to deliver services, including facilities and estates.On 19 September 2018, NHS Improvement announced that there should be a pause in any current plans to create new subsidiaries. NHS Improvement have said that that there will be a consultation on this followed by new guidance. UNISON will continue to campaign against the creation of these subco’s, and believes the pause should become permanent.What are subco’s?A subco is an organisation set up at arm’s length but still owned by the trust. It means that those services currently provided in-house will be provided by a separate company that will employ staff who currently work for the NHS.What’s the issue? Trusts claim that money will be saved by exploiting a tax loophole, but the major savings will come from employing new staff on non-NHS terms and conditions. UNISON believes this is a form of backdoor privatisation, with direct consequences for healthcare staff and potentially damaging ramifications for the NHS in England. |
| **Young Workers Need Unions**Millennials: The hipster characterisation masks a much starker reality for the houseless generation. Most young workers are contending with low wages, insecure jobs and no voice at work. They need trade unions more than ever but don’t always ‘get’ unions.So it’s no surprise that recruiting and organising young workers is a top priority for UNISON – we even voted to make 2019 the year of young workers. Trade unions survival depends upon it but more importantly there is a moral imperative, considering the working conditions young workers face. Encourage a young worker you know to join UNISON today. Together we’re stronger.  | **Shop Stops**There have been a number of issues raised around crews returning to station for meal break, and being refused shop stops, or being told that their meal break will begin immediately. There is an agreement in place that states it is reasonable for crews to stop on route back to station to collect provisions for their meal. With an agreed 5 to 10 minute to stops at the local shop.  Crews should contact EOC prior to going to the shops to inform them of their intentions, and should not delay the journey back to station by taking excessive detours.  |