**Election Statements**

Each individual was asked to put forward a statement of no more than 200 words. The statements are as received and should be read prior to voting for the individual.

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| **North and East Area Secretary** | |
| **Steve Somerfield** | **Neil Woods** |
| We are now at 2019 Branch election time and you as paying members need to vote for your representatives, entitling you to immediate, efficient representation, when you need it, with issues such as disciplinary, sickness, and daily working conditions to name a few.  As an experienced, knowledgable rep, convenor and area secretary in north and east for 10 years, my 100% passion and commitment to provide you with the best possible support and advice remains as strong as ever.  My role is to ensure you as members are treated fairly, consistantly and respectfully,  according to policies and to do my best to ensure your are able to come to work and carry out the role you are all passionatley committed to, i.e. caring for your patients, without undue stress and pressure.  With your vote, my paramount commitment to you all is to continue working hard, 7 days a week to ensure you recieve the best support and advice available, that you are fully informed about any situatuion you may find yourself in and that you have confidence in your unison representatives, to provide the support and help you expect and deserve. | I have been a Unison Steward now for a number of years and been at the forefront in assisting members with issues they have encountered both personally and within the workplace.   I feel that I have the right qualities to support and represent members, to make sure they are listened to and to ensure they are supported correctly. I am an advocate of people being treated both fairly and equally, thus allowing members the opportunity to be represented and supported to the best of my ability.  Over the past couple of years, I have been actively involved in the Education and Recruitment processes, working hard for both the members and the UNISON in promoting what the regional unison branch offers and the good work that it does for its members.  The ability to work as part of a team is paramount when applying for this position and I look forward to the challenges that this will bring. I think that I will offer an alternative outlook and vision in how members perceive what work the union does and the support and hard work that it carries out on behalf of its members. |
| **Education Co-Ordinator** | |
| **Lindsey Curtis** | Gordon Slack |
| Hi to all members, my name is Lindsey Curtis and I have worked for the service for 23 years. I started as a cadet, progressed to PTS, ambulance technician and a paramedic for over 10years.  I have been an active member of UNISON for over 12 years and have taken on roles of Convenor and Welfare over that time, during which I am proud of the work I did supporting members in their time of need.  After stepping aside for a short period of time due to having two young children I feel now is the right time to become more active once again. I would love the opportunity of Education Lead to give a new start and fresh impetuous into a vital part of what UNISON has to offer.  I feel passionately about education, by empowering our Branch committee and stewards we strengthen the representation to members, equally I would to develop an education programme to encourage and support members to reach their full potential.  My experience, confidence and friendly attributes can only bring a positive vibe to the role. | My name isGordon Slack, an Emergency Medical Technician in Bridlington.  Historically, I worked for ten years in HM Prison Service in an Education/ Rehabilitation Role training prisoners to enable them to gain employment on their release.  Previous to that, I was a Mechanical Engineer in Doncaster serving an apprenticeship as a Fabricator/Welder completing some 17 yeas as a site manager installing and maintaining Agricultural and food processing machinery in various location around Europe.  Bringing me back up to data, I moved to Bridlington 9 years ago and commenced employment with YAS almost five years ago as an Emergency Care Assistant based at Scarborough Ambulance Station.  I transferred to Bridlington station in February 2016 .shortly after applying for and completing the EMT1 training in December 2016. Last year I completed the Unison stage 1 training meaning I am an accredited unison representative for YAS.  I enjoy supporting colleagues and facing new challenges I am passionate about Unison and I feel that the role of Unison education co-ordinator would suit my skill set and develop my strengths. |
| **Equalities Co-Ordinator** | |
| **Islam Faqir** | **Abigail Cunningham-Stanley** |
| My name is Islam Faqir I am a Paramedic and have been a member of UNISON for 20 years; I am standing for election for the Equality Coordinator position.  The issue around inequality is one that most of us have all experienced, as a disabled member of staff I know this more than most, I have held this role for 3 years and wish to carry on with the work we have done with your support.    I have designed and reported on issues that staff have experienced through method of survey, this has resulted in some direct changes to policy. I have then put these results in to report form and presented them to our branch and the Trust to try bringing change and tackling any discrimination to all UINISON members.    I also have been elected to the UNISON Regional Equality Groups where I can highlight issues from a branch level to regional and national arena. I am passionate about all things equality and constantly challenge and look to better working conditions for all UNISON members.    I hope to secure your vote so I can keep raising issues and fighting for Equality.    Thank you for considering me in advance. | My Name is Abbie Cunningham-Stanley. I have worked for Yorkshire Ambulance Service for 17 years. I worked as an Emergency Medical Dispatcher (EMD) in the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) for 15 years before moving on to become an EOC Quality Auditor, I have been in this role for 3 years.  I have been your UNISON LGBT Lead for the past 3 years, This position has enabled me to attend the annual LGBT conference to raise and address issues amongst the LGBT community, and grow from the opportunities it has provided. I am also a UNISON steward, providing representation and advice on all workplace issues to members  I am asking for you to vote for me as your new Equalities Coordinator! I feel I would be able to offer a new perspective and approach to this role, I am very passionate about Equality in the workplace. I am willing to put in the hard work, time an effort required to achieve this and make an Equal working environment for everyone.  Thank you for considering my vote. |
| **Learner Rep Lead** | |
| **Ian Lawrence** | **Gordon Slack** |
| My name is Ian Lawrence, Paramedic based at Pateley Bridge and I have worked in the ambulance service for 17 years. I trained as Union Learner Representative (URL) in 2004.  I am wishing to stand for re- election in the role of Lifelong Learning Lead, a role I currently undertake and am keen to continue and develop further. I wish to:  Raise awareness of life-long learning issues in the workplace, especially with non-traditional learners to identify potential skills and talent.  Help to identify, prioritise and support members with their specific learning needs around literacy and numeracy, and basic IT skills  Liaise with members to identify occupation skills, needs and gaps in provision or specific interests.  Encourage members to access and participate in life-long learning opportunities.  Help to identify and apply for sources of funding to support life-long learning including working with external partners.  Help members access a range of learning resources and tools via unions’ life-long learning, education departments and institutes and those of their partners.  Work with the trust on the development of a workforce educational plan including apprenticeships.  Recruit more ULRs across YAS to further the learning agenda within Unison and YAS.  Ian Lawrence. | My name is Gordon Slack, an Emergency Medical Technician in Bridlington.  Historically, I worked for ten years in HM Prison Service in an Education/ Rehabilitation Role training prisoners to enable them to gain employment on their release.  Previous to that, I was a Mechanical Engineer in Doncaster serving an apprenticeship as a Fabricator/Welder completing some 17 yeas as a site manager installing and maintaining Agricultural and food processing machinery in various location around Europe.  Bringing me back up to data, I moved to Bridlington 9 years ago and commenced employment with YAS almost five years ago as an Emergency Care Assistant based at Scarborough Ambulance Station.  I transferred to Bridlington station in February 2016 .shortly after applying for and completing the EMT1 training in December 2016. Last year I completed the Unison stage 1 training meaning I am an accredited unison representative for YAS.  I enjoy supporting colleagues and facing new challenges I am passionate about Unison and I feel that the role of Unison education co-ordinator would suit my skill set and develop my strengths. |