

UNISON Direct 08000 857 857

Yorkshire Ambulance Branch

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 **Suitable Meal Break Locations for PTS operational staff.**

**There have been some concerns raised recently around the PTS meal break and suitable locations for it to be taken.**

**The management enforced meal break arrangement in 2013 states the following;**

The Trust will not plan to stand staff down for a rest break at any location where there are not appropriate facilities available. Such facilities include sanitary conveniences, hand -washing facilities, and facilities to eat meals and drinking water.

The HSE guidance is as follows;

Welfare at work - Guidance for employers on welfare provisions.

What arrangements should I make for meal breaks?

There should be a suitable seating area for workers to use during breaks, it needs to be clean and located where food will not get contaminated. There should be washing facilities nearby, and a means of heating food or water for hot drinks.

If the above facilities are not available, then inform resource staff they need to find you an alternative location that does fulfil the requirements. If you feel you are being put under any pressure to take your break at a location that does not have the required facilities, please contact YAS Unison at YAS.unison@nhs.net.