



SC/ASC/11/08
ASC Sector Cost Code 0-34-90-03

UNISON HEALTH GROUP ANCILLARY & MAINTENANCE NATIONAL SECTOR COMMITTEE

Notes of the Meeting of the Ancillary & Maintenance National Sector Committee held on Thursday 27th November 2008 at 12 noon in Committee Room 2, Hughes Parry Hall, 19-26 Cartwright Gardens, Camden, London WC1H 9EF.

Present: David Grimmer (Eastern), Benny Cassidy (Northern Ireland), Morag Houston – Vice Chair (Scotland), Kath Budd (South West), Hugh McDyer - Chair (Wales), Adrian O'Malley (Yorkshire & Humberside)

Staff: Dave Godson (Committee Secretary), Kevin Russell (Committee Administrator), Joanne Kaye-Smith (Regional Head of Health)

AGENDA

<u>No</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Action/ Responsibility</u>
01/08	Apologies for Absence Sam Godfrey (East Midlands), Len Hockey (Greater London), Dave Griffiths (Maintenance), George Barron (Northern) The committee agreed to forward "Get Well Soon" cards to George Barron and Dave Griffiths.	DG
02/08	Notes of the Previous Meeting The notes of the meeting held on 16 th July 2008 were agreed as an accurate record with the exception of one item. Under the list of members present, David Grimmer should have been listed as the full Eastern rep rather than a substitute. It was agreed that the notes would be changed accordingly.	DG

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03/08	Matters Arising There were no matters arising from the notes which did not appear elsewhere on the agenda.	
04/08	<p data-bbox="316 450 735 483">UNISON Structures Review</p> <p data-bbox="316 495 1198 600">The committee received a report on the progress of the UNISON Service Group Structures Review from project manager Joanne Kaye-Smith.</p> <p data-bbox="316 611 1198 757">It was noted that the Health Service Group Executive had submitted its input to the project, broadly expressing a preference for gradual change rather than a “big bang” approach.</p> <p data-bbox="316 768 1198 1021">The committee emphasised that ancillary and maintenance workers are treated differently by management and face distinct issues to other occupational groups. The committee therefore expressed a strong desire to see the group continue to articulate the interests of ancillary and maintenance workers, though it is happy to entertain different ways of working or a different title for the group.</p> <p data-bbox="316 1032 1198 1137">If the proposed consultation paper on the structures review is accepted at the December National Executive Committee meeting, it would be published across the union for comment.</p> <p data-bbox="316 1149 1198 1223">The committee agreed to discuss the consultation at its 19 February 2009 meeting.</p>	DG / HM
05/08	<p data-bbox="316 1279 871 1312">Motions for Health Conference 2009</p> <p data-bbox="316 1323 1198 1395">The committee agreed to submit a draft motion to Health Conference 2009 entitled “Apprenticeships in the NHS.”</p> <p data-bbox="316 1406 1198 1552">An amendment to the SGE motion on the economic crisis would be considered that drew attention to PFI in the context of bank nationalisations, along with an amendment to the Nursing Sector motion on nutrition.</p> <p data-bbox="316 1563 1198 1668">Although probably not appropriate for a motion, it was agreed to seek Staff Council advice on the issuing of extra pay band points in recognition of experience.</p> <p data-bbox="316 1680 1198 1821">The point was also emphasised that changes to UNISON policy arising from conference should be highlighted at the post-conference national meeting of Regional Heads of Health.</p>	DG
06/08	<p data-bbox="316 1883 703 1917">Pay, Terms & Conditions</p> <p data-bbox="316 1928 1198 2031">The committee received a written round-up of negotiations on calculation of annual leave pay, equal pay, mileage allowances and the on-call review.</p>	

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The committee expressed support for continuing local arrangements that calculate annual leave pay on a regular rota basis. It was agreed to pass on the committee's views to UNISON's lead negotiators.

DG

Scotland region reported that a major campaign is under way on the re-opening of 2009/10 pay rates and many members felt that there had been insufficient clarity about the terms of the re-opening clause.

The committee noted the decision of the SGE to await the outcome of the NHS Pay Review Body recommendation and government response before discussing the way forward at the January SGE meeting.

07/08 Privatisation

- Yorkshire and Humberside Region reported that information is still being sought on the cost of the Wakefield PFI under the Freedom of Information Act. Until this information is obtained, Allyson Pollock will be unable to conduct her appraisal of the scheme.
- South West Region reported that the Devonwide Services PFI scheme to build a new community hospital appears to have collapsed and the trust is focusing on refurbishing existing services. However, rumours persist of outsourcing ancillary and maintenance staff at Royal Bristol Hospital.
- Northern Ireland reported that NI Health Group has been announced as the bidder for the first full PFI hospital in Northern Ireland.
- Eastern region reported that management appear to have retreated on promises not to use PFI or outsource staff in the rebuilding of James Paget Hospital.
- Scotland outlined arrangements for in-house and outsourced provision of soft and hard facilities management staff at Fourth Valley Hospital.
- Wales emphasised that the country's biggest PFI is coming back in house and the Assembly has ruled that no new PFI schemes in health will be initiated.

The committee received an outline of plans to hold an award ceremony and conference for cleaners on 16 and 17 February 2009 at the Holiday Inn, Bloomsbury.

- Forms will be distributed shortly seeking award nominations and enabling registration.
- Jointly sponsored with employer organisations, the

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	<p>event is seeking a mixture of cleaners and managers to engage decision makers in the debate about in-house provision.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approximately 200 delegates are sought for the ceremony and 300 for the conference. Speakers are set to include Stephanie Dancer, Steven Davis, Dave Prentis and Karen Jennings. Nomination and registration forms must be returned by 23 January 2009. 	
08/08	<p>Membership Recruitment & Retention</p> <p>The committee approved the new Ancillary matters newsletter for publication in December. A total of 20,000 copies will be distributed among branches and future copies will be produced three times a year to follow each Ancillary and Maintenance Sector Committee meeting.</p> <p>Committee members were encouraged to forward any appropriate articles to Kevin Russell on k.russell@unison.co.uk. The committee promised an article on defeating PFI in Wales.</p> <p>The general decline in health membership was noted and the committee emphasised the importance for recognition of ensuring union density does not fall below 50%. Many regions reported positive experiences of the organising techniques taught at workshops by US trade union organiser Will Erickson.</p>	<p>DG</p> <p>ALL</p>
09/08	<p>Sector Budget</p> <p>The committee noted that the sector remains in budget for this year and, despite cuts, the projected figures for next year are also on track.</p> <p>Over the long term it was noted that the inequity of representing the third largest staff group while receiving one of the smallest sector budgets must be addressed.</p>	DG
10/08	<p>Next Meeting</p> <p>The committee noted that the next meeting would take place on <u>19th February 2009 at noon, Mabledon Place</u></p>	DG
11/08	<p>Future Meetings</p> <p>The committee noted that the following meeting would take place on <u>2nd July 2009 at noon, Mabledon Place</u></p>	DG

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12/08	Any Other Business	
	The Secretary agreed to seek information on entitlement to RRP's for Regional Secure Unit Leads from UNISON's lead negotiators and circulate the response to the committee.	DG
	The Secretary also agreed to circulate information on entitlements for short-term acting up.	DG

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