

## NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (NEC) ELECTIONS - EAST MIDLANDS MALE SEAT



### **REQUEST TO NOMINATE ANTHONY HUNT**

### **FOR A CAMPAIGNING NEC MEMBER**

**Nominations open 09/01/2023; close 13/02/2023 at 5pm**

**Dear UNISON Branch,**

I hope this letter finds you well.

I am writing to seek nomination from your Branch to become a candidate in the election for the UNISON NEC East Midlands Male Seat.

Our members fought heroically to save lives throughout the Covid pandemic. The Government says we're not worth a decent pay rise yet big business rakes in billions in profits whilst we face austerity.

Whether in the public sector or the private, voluntary and independent sector, we have already had year on year real terms pay cuts. Now members are struggling to keep roofs over their heads and food on the table. The cost of keeping warm during the winter has become unaffordable for many.

This Tory government totally mismanaged the pandemic which claimed over 200,000 lives while lining the pockets of their friends and collaborators. We are seeing the horrors of war and climate collapse.

We are working under massive stress and are understaffed through years of cuts, yet in-work poverty is at an all-time high. Healthcare workers and other public sector workers are using food and warm banks.

The Tories will try to make ordinary people pay for their incompetence and the crisis of their system.

UNISON needs to be more responsive to the interests of members of our union and the people who use our services, to fight the massive battles facing us.

UNISON should:

- Where necessary, co-ordinate action across the union rather than leave branches, service groups and to fight alone;
- Where possible, co-ordinate action with other trade unions utilising the strength of our movement.

**I stand for:**

- A Real Fight on Public Sector Pay. National Action to back claims to reverse the 'austerity years' pay cuts: A 15% rise without strings for health workers; £15 an hour minimum wage for all.
- A re-nationalised NHS and Social Care sector. Outsourced services need to be brought back in-house. For full staffing levels, a non-means tested student bursary and abolition of student fees;

- Fighting Local Authority Cuts: Now is time for UNISON to lead a national fight to win the necessary funding for local government; our union must fight all cuts and attacks on jobs and terms and conditions whoever runs the local council. Labour councillors should not attack services and our members jobs and conditions;
- Reversal of all Education Privatisation: Academies back to Local Authorities; Full funding for Early Years & Schools; Full funding for Further Education and Higher Education;
- Bringing the Utilities back into public ownership with compensation only to small shareholders not the massive companies;
- 2023 is UNISON year of the Black worker and we must ensure that our union is at the forefront of the fight against racism and discrimination in the workplace. The Black Lives Matters movement galvanised the fight against racism in the UK. The energy of the Black Lives Matters movement must continue in the workplace.;
- For a trade union fight to end environmental catastrophe;
- No members' money to Labour representatives who back cuts, privatisation or austerity; our union should be able to support candidates in Parliamentary or Council elections that support UNISON policies and are prepared to put them into action;
- For genuine member control of our union; for the election of Regional Secretaries and Senior Regional and National Officers on no more than the average wages of those they seek to represent.
- Members and activists must have full transparent, democratic control over the union. Branches must have a genuine right to campaign and work with other branches and be fully resourced;
- The Tories are threatening new anti-strike laws. The year is beginning how 2022 ended with significant nation-wide strike action. Railway workers, postal workers, NHS workers, all on-going. Nurses and ambulance workers have more strike dates planned in January. Civil servants in PCS continue their targeted strikes. Many more sets of workers could join the struggle, including teachers, firefighters and junior doctors;

If the Rishi Sunak government tries to pass new punitive anti-strike laws, the response from the Trade Union movement should include co-ordinated strike action.

**My record as a UNISON workplace representative and campaigner in my own time, includes:**

- I am the Branch Chair of Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Branch. We won a 26% uplift in the mileage rate when prices shot up.
- Delegate to East Midlands Regional Council and the Regional Health Committee.
- Member of East Midlands International Committee.
- Delegate to Nottingham and Mansfield Trades Council
- Currently involved in a campaign to increase banding and work conditions of domestics and porters who are managed by an out-sourced company.
- When at Mansfield Community Hospital, I initiated the #weareallchatsworth campaign, leading the successful fight to save Chatsworth Ward following the hugely successful public campaign;

- Battled work place bullying; stood with members who were being harmed by organisations and managers;
- Battled racism both in and out of the workplace including standing shoulder to shoulder with counter protesters when the far right marched through Nottingham; I have protested with the magnificent Black Lives Matter protests following the murder of George Floyd in the US.
- Campaigned tirelessly for a positive pay ballot return and am campaigning for a re-ballot.
- I have and am showing support to workers in struggle, supporting different sector picket lines and taking solidarity messages.

Our National Executive Council has a responsibility to give a lead and to give members and branches confidence that they will be supported in defending jobs, conditions and services. We saw the power of the unions in education which prevented the dangers of fully reopening of schools in the days of the pandemic.

**If elected to the NEC, I will:**

- **Argue and campaign for a real fight on pay that uses the collective strength of our union**
- **Fight and oppose all privatisations, cuts and closures;**
- **Call on our union to campaign for the charges and debts from Private Finance Initiative projects to be written off;**
- **Support and campaign with branches that are fighting employer and government attack;**
- **Support co-ordinated action across the union and with other trade unions;**
- **Support branch and regional recruitment campaigns and, would attend regional meetings and if invited branch committee and branch meetings; support campaigns to find new stewards to strengthen our union.**
- **Provide regular reports after NEC meetings on what was discussed and what I said and how I voted.**

I hope your branch will consider nominating me and supports my campaign for a fighting National Executive Council.

**Please also nominate:**

**Nathalie Birkett: Female Seat;**

**Sara Evans: Low Pay Reserved Seat**

Yours in Solidarity

**Tom Hunt**

**Name on Membership Records for nomination purposes: Anthony Hunt**

**Membership No 3496783; Branch Name: Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS: Branch code 2224**