



James Anthony for the NEC

Membership No. 8679650

jamesanthonyrn@gmail.com, 07855411597

Twitter: @jamesanthonyrn

Dear colleague,

Nomination for National Executive Council – Health (General) Seat

From our ambulance service to our hospitals, our community and primary care services, mental health and children's services, our members and our NHS need, UNISON like never before. Unfortunately, the leadership of our NEC spent too much time fighting our own union rather than for our members. ***Your branch has a chance to help change this with your nomination.***

Crisis in our NHS

As health workers we see it every day, across all our services. While the news shows the crisis in A&E departments and ambulance services, we know this is replicated across hospital and community services, including mental health and children's services. Some point to the pandemic and recovery as the reason, we know that this simply exposed an already weakened NHS with budgets cut to the bone, fragmentation of services through outsourcing and privatisation, and a workforce already dangerously over stretched and demoralised.

Crisis for health staff

Over a decade of below inflation increases had already left health workers worse off and the cost of living crisis has hit many of us hard. But more than that so many of the staff I speak to feel undervalued and unheard. Our pleas for resources, for safe staffing, for investment in training and development have fallen on deaf ears.

Our NHS needs:

- An end to privatisation, competition, and fragmentation
- A proper pay rise now and a long-term plan to ensure proper pay and reward for NHS staff
- Significant investment so we can get the NHS off its knees

Crisis in our economy

The Tories have played recklessly and crashed our economy, but now want us once again to pick up the pieces. Austerity is what got us into this, a weak economy without proper public

investment and public services, austerity cannot be the answer and we must fight this. What our economy needs is good public services and workers like us with money in our pockets to spend and grow the economy again.

Crisis in our NEC

In the many years I have served on the NEC, I have never seen anything like the behaviour of the new leadership of our NEC who took over at the last elections. Arrogantly pushing their own personal agendas and protecting their own people, rather than standing up for our wider membership. Undermining our elected general secretary Christina McAnae and breaching our own rules. This led to branches voting overwhelmingly in no confidence in our NEC last June, with no substantial response offered despite myself and others arguing that we should have all stood down and faced fresh elections.

Backing our members, Backing our branches, Backing our general secretary

Our priority must be our members and you the branches. Our branches in Scotland have shown the strength and commitment needed to deliver for our members, and I know that this year's pay round has been tough. It's you as branches and working together through your health committee that has put extra money in the pockets of our members when they need it. You need an NEC who will listen to you and back you with what you need.

Health members also need an NEC team who put the interests of members first always and will work with Christina McAnae to do this. This is why I'm also asking Branches to consider nominating **Michelle England** and **Pat Heron** for the female seats and **Gordon MacKay** for the male seat.

In unity,



James Anthony for NEC

Nominations have to be made at a **quorate Branch Committee or Branch Meeting** submitted before the **13th February at 5pm**. Nominations must be submitted via the online portal, your branch secretary will have received a link via email. If you can't find it, you can contact unison@cesvotes.com to get it re-sent.

Full details can be found at www.unison.org.uk/elections