

## LGBT+ Spring Newsletter

### Trans Rights and the recent Supreme Court Judgement on Women for Scotland – v – Scottish Ministers.

UNISON believes that the transgender, nonbinary and intersex community members like everyone else have the right to live a dignified life based on the established principles of equality, diversity and inclusion. That right to live their lives in full without fear and discrimination at work; at home and in all public spaces is enshrined in law.

Read: **UNISON** City of Edinburgh's statement on the court judgement at this link:

[UNISON City of Edinburgh Statement](#)

[UNISON statement](#)

[STUC Statement - Instagram](#)



### TransPride Scotland

TransPride Scotland was in Kirkcaldy on 29 March 2025.

**UNISON** was represented and proudly flew our newly minted **UNISON City of Edinburgh** TransPride flag on the march. Read the full report here: [TransPride Scotland 2025 - UNISON City of Edinburgh](#)



### LGBT+ History Month – February 2025

**UNISON** City of Edinburgh were not able to put on events or celebrations this year. This was because Ian Ludlam, LGBT+ Officer had newly been elected branch chair and was otherwise busy with AGM business. Ian, however, did offer to support the council's Stride Network's Programme. Will do better next year.

### International day against Homophobia, Transphobia & Biphobia 2025

International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia & Biphobia is an annual event that takes place this year on Saturday 17 May to draw attention to the discrimination and violence faced by LGBT+ people worldwide. This day was first conceived in 2005 to highlight the discrimination faced by LGBT+ people around the world and is held to mark the World Health Organization's decision to remove homosexuality from its list of mental illnesses in 1990.

**UNISON** City of Edinburgh will have a table at lunch time in

the Courtyard at Waverley Court on Thursday 15 May to mark the day. Please come along and say "Hi!" and pick up a "ask me for my pro-nouns" button if you're around.

### Pride

Pride season will soon be upon us and Edinburgh has two pride events. Pride Edinburgh & its little sister, Porty Pride

**Porty Pride** is a community Pride festival running from Friday 6 June until Sunday 8 June. The cornerstone of any good Pride celebration is the march which will take place on Saturday 7 June. Details are here: [portypride.com](http://portypride.com)



**Pride Edinburgh** will be held over the weekend of 21 – 22 June. The 2025 programme has yet to be published, but the details will be posted in due course here:

[www.prideedinburgh.org](http://www.prideedinburgh.org)



**UNISON** City of Edinburgh

will be in attendance at both **Porty Pride & Pride Edinburgh** where we will have stalls. Hopefully **UNISON NHS Lothian, UNISON SEPA and UNISON Scottish Ambulance Service** will join us. If you would like to join **UNISON** colleagues flying our bespoke rainbow flags, or can spare some time helping with the stalls, please get in touch with Ian at [ian.ludlam@unison.org.uk](mailto:ian.ludlam@unison.org.uk)

Join us in **UNISON 0131 558 7488 option 2** or [www.unison.org.uk](http://www.unison.org.uk)

P&P by UNISON City of Edinburgh Branch, Broadside, 2 Powderhall Road, Edinburgh EH7 4GB

# Scottish LGBT+ Committee



The Scottish LGBT+ Committee met for their annual policy weekend on 8 & 9 February in Clydebank. Talks were given by Kaukab Stewart, Scottish Government Minister for Equalities and Dougie Morgan, Fighting with Pride (FWP). Kaukab's message is now moot due to the recent Supreme Court Ruling and it will be interesting to see what if anything she now plans to do

regarding trans rights in Scotland. Dougie spoke about the importance of raising the profile of FWP, the UK's only LGBT+ military campaign group and charity and the difficulties the ex-service LGBT+ community face.

The Committee next meet in Edinburgh, the date has yet to be announced.

The committee has still two vacancies for women LGBT+

members and a vacant reserved seat for a Black **UNISON** LGBT+ member (please note, Black in **UNISON** language includes all people of colour). You must identify as LGBT+ to be on the committee, but other than that, you are free to put your name forward to [ian.ludlam@unison-edinburgh.org.uk](mailto:ian.ludlam@unison-edinburgh.org.uk). If you are female or Black, please consider getting involved.



## UNISON Self Organised Groups:

Women | LGBT+ | Disabled Members | Black Members

To make sure all our members have a voice in the union, **UNISON** members have set up self-organised groups' to provide a voice for people who are traditionally under represented. If you are interested in any of the above then please contact the City of Edinburgh branch office.

We are currently looking to recruit a disabled officer within the **UNISON** City of Edinburgh branch. This role is completely voluntary. If interested please contact the branch office on: 0131 558 7488 or email: [branchoffice@unison-edinburgh.org.uk](mailto:branchoffice@unison-edinburgh.org.uk)



Fighting with Pride are working hard to build their service so that they can provide support and befriending where there is the greatest need. Fighting with Pride work with a wide range of organisations to make sure that LGBT+ Veterans receive a warm welcome wherever they seek help. All donations are welcome. For further information please visit their website [fightingwithpride.org.uk](http://fightingwithpride.org.uk)

## Scottish Trades Union Council (STUC)

### STUC Congress 2025

The 128th Annual **Scottish Trades Union Council (STUC)** congress was held in Dundee 28 – 30 April. At the time of writing Emergency Motion 8 – Defend Trans Rights was still to be debated.

The full programme of motions and their outcomes can be read here:

[STUC Congress 2025 | STUC](#)



### STUC LGBT+ Conference

The 14th Annual STUC LGBT+ Workers' Conference will take place on Saturday 31st May and Sunday 1st June 2025 at the Golden Jubilee Conference Hotel. **UNISON** Scottish LGBT+ Committee will be represented by 4 committee members, including Ian Ludlam, **UNISON** City of Edinburgh LGBT+ Officer. Don Naismith, **UNISON** City of Edinburgh Shop Steward (Customer & Digital Services) will be joining the delegation as a visitor.

The **UNISON** LGBT+ Members Group is open to all members who identify as gay, lesbian, bi, transgender, non-binary, gender diverse, aromantic or asexual. If you would like to become a LGBT+ Group member, please contact:

[ian.ludlam@unison-edinburgh.org.uk](mailto:ian.ludlam@unison-edinburgh.org.uk) for further information.