



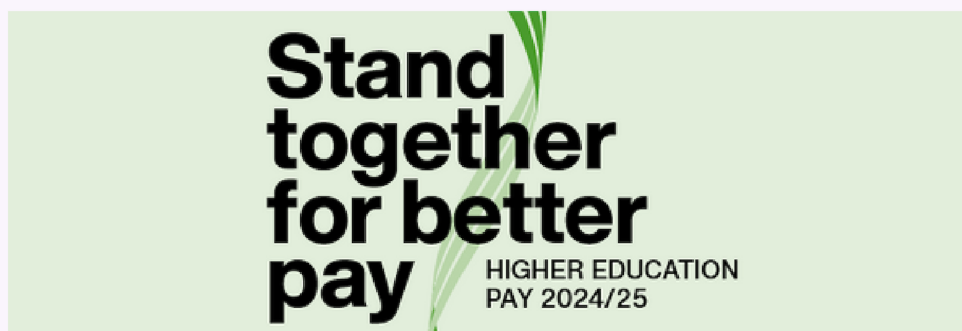
## REGIONAL CONVENOR & REGIONAL SECRETARY NEWSLETTER

26 June 2024



At the Regional Committee meeting held on 6 June a motion was passed that outlined the dire situation within Higher education in the Y&H region. It was agreed that we would provide all the branches within the region an update on the current changes being proposed by the employers.

Support is being given to the branches but any additional help your branch can give would be much appreciated. We will continue to keep you updated.



**Leeds Beckett Student Union** – No compulsory or voluntary redundancies proposed. We negotiated enhanced voluntary severance offer in advance of initial proposal that saw enough applications to avoid any compulsory redundancies. 9 colleagues applied and accepted voluntary severance before initial proposal announced. Further 3 applications for voluntary redundancy accepted post consultation.

**Leeds Beckett University** - Want to save £25m. Opened VRS in February and closed in May, 180 staff have taken it. 40% are Professional Services staff. The university has said that further savings in staff costs will need to be made in the next few years. They are planning on further redundancy proposals but have not shared these as yet.



**Sheffield Hallam University** - Looking to save £50 million which includes savings from last year. Voluntary Redundancy Scheme – (VRS) for Professional Services staff to reduce by 400 (20% cut) over two phases.

**University of Bradford** - Executive Board members have been asked to reduce their overall budgets including staffing costs, by up to 10% for the next academic year. Targeted reorganization will take place in some areas. MARS scheme launched end of April and closed end of May offering 6 months gross salary. They are currently reviewing the academic workload to ensure academics are investing time in research or teaching which will provide most benefit to the University.

**University of Huddersfield** - Are making a 12% cut in overall staff with 198 job loses, which were initially via compulsory redundancy. They intend to centralise Professional Services staff. UNISON and UCU are in dispute, negotiations are going.

**University of Hull** – Following on from the 2019 financial crisis which was due to Nigerian currency devaluation, an increase in energy bills and the fall in international students (400 total left) it has meant VRS was offered. 105 accepted (68% were Professional Services staff). Running the scheme again. Issues with remaining staff working over capacity. Potential of compulsory redundancies coming, likely for academic staff.

**University of Leeds** - There are no current talks in regard to redundancy or restructuring and finances in positive territory, with increased funding for STU. No issues are known at either Leeds Trinity or Leeds School of Arts.

**University of York** – The university are looking to save £24 million across all staff and are running a VRS (6 months pay, no return in 3 years). They are looking for 200 volunteers and will be centralising PS staff.

**York St John University** - 30-day consultation commenced 20 May 2024 – close 21 June with deadline for VRS applications 10 June. Potential £13m savings to be made. 30 compulsory redundancies announced.





# GENERAL ELECTION - 4 JULY



Do your members know about the new voter ID requirements?  
There is only one way to find out: ask them.

Just asking the question can encourage people to vote. It's also a great conversation starter about the issues at stake at this election, for public services and workers rights.

According to new data, 76% of UNISON members feel like the country is headed in the wrong direction. And the top three issues for UNISON members at this election are the cost of living, the economy and health.

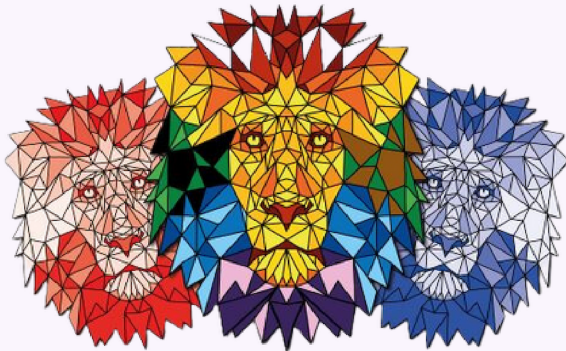


*Congratulations*



Helena Fletcher from UNISON Sheffield Community Health, who won the Eric Roberts Award.

Wendy Nichols, Regional Convenor, who will receive an OBE for political service.



**UK PRIDE**  
**HOST CITY 2024**  
**DONCASTER**

UNISON is delighted to be one of the sponsors for this year's UK Pride event, which is being held in Doncaster.

There will be three event spaces on the day – the main 'Pride Stage' which UNISON is sponsoring, the City Stage, as well as the Cabaret Marquee. There will also be a Youth Pride area for under-18s, providing entertainment and activities. A Family Zone and Trans+ Zone will also be on site, as well as a Rainbow Market, which will include retail stalls and gifts.

To find out more visit - <https://www.doncasterpride.co.uk/>

# PRIDE EVENTS

29 June - Grassington

29 June - Ilkley

6 July - Bridlington

13 July - Barnsley

13 July - Cleethorpes & Grimsby

13 July - Sheffield

21 July - Leeds Pride & Trans Pride Leeds

22-28 July - Hebden Bridge

10 August - Doncaster

11 August - Wakefield

17 August - Calderdale / Halifax

25 August - Scunthorpe

21 September - Scarborough



## DONCASTER RACES

Saturday 3 August 2024, entry from 12 noon

2 Grandstand tickets for £15

2 County enclosure tickets for £32

Remember to add the promotional code UNISON2024MEMBER to the web page when booking - [Click here to book](#)

**Racing commences at approximately 1.50pm which will be followed by live music from One Night in Nashville at approximately 5.30pm.**

Gamble responsibly.

For more info visit [www.gambleaware.com](http://www.gambleaware.com) or telephone 0808 8020 133 or the Northern Gambling Service which is an NHS funded and provided service

<https://www.leedsandyorkpft.nhs.uk/our-services/northern-gambling-service/>

