



No.2 Spring 2018

## Do you identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual or Transgender?

Trade unions exist to improve the working lives of their members. Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender workers face harassment and discrimination. It's hard to deal with on your own. As a UNISON member you have a voice in the UK's largest public service union, committed to working for LGBT rights.

LGBT members organise locally and nationally to support each other, to identify and challenge discrimination, to increase awareness of LGBT rights and to campaign for change.

## Chechnya: LGBT rights are human rights – Protest

A brutal campaign against gay men is sweeping across Chechnya, an administrative unit of the Russian Federation. At least 100 men who are suspected by the authorities of being gay have been abducted, put into "concentration camps", tortured and many even killed.

The government in Chechnya deny this by stating "that gay men can't be being rounded up and killed, as there aren't any gay men in Chechnya. And if there were, the state wouldn't need to 'deal with them' as their families would do it themselves"

Chechnya is bound by human rights both domestic and international. These have been fatally disregarded. UNISON has a proud history of promoting LGBT rights and making gains for the LGBT community.



You can join UNISON Newcastle Hospital Branch and UNISON Northern as they protest the current persecution of Gay Men and the LGBT community in Chechnya and demand that they recognise that LGBT Rights are Human Rights. You can find more information on the facebook event for more details or from the national website.

All are welcome, let's make this a colourful, peaceful protest and show that love and community spirit is the way to defeat hate.

When: Wednesday 19th of April at 6pm

Where: Times Square, next to the Centre for Life – Newcastle

Please join us and stand in solidarity with the Chechen LGBT community to let Chechnya know – the world is watching and we won't accept this.

## STUC LGBT Conference

Your regional committee will be attending the Scottish Trades Union Congress, LGBT Conference in Clydebank at the Beardmore Hotel on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of June 2018.

The Committee is proud to be involved and attend this important conference. We have submitted 2 motions to conference, Dementia Care for LGBT people in an ageing population & Non Binary inclusion.

# Scottish Region Events & National Meetings

Grampian Pride, Aberdeen - 26 <sup>th</sup> May 2018	Dumfries & Galloway Pride - 15 <sup>th</sup> September 2018
Edinburgh Pride - 16 <sup>th</sup> June 2018	Dundee Pride - 22 <sup>nd</sup> September 2018
Fife Pride, Kirkcaldy - 7 <sup>th</sup> July 2018	International Day against Homo, Bi and Transphobia - 17 <sup>th</sup> May 2018
Glasgow Pride - 14 <sup>th</sup> and 15 <sup>th</sup> July 2018	UNISON National Trans network meeting - 19 <sup>th</sup> July 2018
Livingston Pride - 28 <sup>th</sup> July 2018	UNISON National Bi network meeting - 19 <sup>th</sup> July 2018
Saltire Pride, East Lothian - 4 <sup>th</sup> August 2018	National Trans Pride, Brighton - 21 <sup>st</sup> – 23 <sup>rd</sup> July 2018
Perth Pride - 11 <sup>th</sup> August 2018	

We believe that when we work together, we are stronger and make a bigger impact. If you or your Branch are planning on attending any Pride events across Scotland, please contact the committee. This year, we have secured funding for Pride Glasgow, and Edinburgh and have obtained sponsorship for Pride Grampian. If any Branches can assist in the running of a stall at any of the new events, or offer financial assistance to do so, that would be greatly appreciated.

## UNISON National LGBT Conference 2018

This year's conference takes place from Friday 16th to Sunday 18th November at the Harrogate International Centre.

Around 400 LGBT members from all sectors are likely to attend this conference. The programme includes keynote speakers, debate of policy motions, workshops, drop-ins, side meetings for black, disabled, bi, trans and young members and lots of networking opportunities.

If you are a UNISON member and would like to attend, we suggest making contact with your local Branch in the first instance.

A link to the registration facility will be provided when this becomes available.

We actively encourage members to attend conference, even if it is your first time the regional committee will be there to support and welcome you. Where possible we encourage members to submit motions via Branches to add to the agenda of conference business.

**For more information about the conference, email - [out@unison.co.uk](mailto:out@unison.co.uk).**

### OUT IN UNISON

'Out in UNISON' is only published three times a year, but you can get monthly updates direct to your inbox by signing up for our LGBT e-bulletin at

[unison.org.uk/out](http://unison.org.uk/out)

### LGBT Scotland Committee are planning a SOG event.

All LGBT self identifying members, are welcome to join us for an afternoon of discussion, and fun. We have yet to set a date for this. We will discuss various themes and how this impacts on LGBT people across Scotland then continue out later onto the scene for a few drinks.

We hope to grow the Self Organised Group, and encourage others to become active and to get more involved. If you would like get involved then we would love to hear from you, and we can add you to our mailing list, or alternatively join our facebook page.

## Contact and Information

Facebook Group – Unison Scotland LGBT (ask to join private group)

Twitter - @UNISONScotlandLGBT