



No.20 Spring 2024

Launch Year of LGBT+ Workers 2024

As part of our ongoing work with the communications and campaigns committee we meet yearly to discuss our policy and action plans for the year ahead. To celebrate Year of LGBT+ workers we had a soft launch in January whilst giving an update for the equality agenda.

We held another extremely successful day at UNISON Scotland LGBT+ Policy forum, setting our action plan and agenda for 2024. We were delighted to launch Year of LGBT+ workers officially at



Scottish Council from our extremely busy Policy Forum in Clydebank. Both motions we submitted were fully supported. We look forward to working with branches and regional committees to ensure a highly visible presence at pride events across Scotland and to provide a full year of events, seminars, celebrations and commemorations of days of importance in the LGBT+ calendar.



Branches held stalls with information and increased visibility for LGBT+ history month across the region. This helps to spread the message of solidarity and promote the work of the Self-organised group.

Let's make this a year of great partnership working, embedding model equality policies with employers and creating safe spaces and better working environments for all our LGBT+ members and create a lasting legacy.

Holocaust Memorial Day

UNISON Scotland LGBT+ committee solemnly commemorated the loss of thousands of LGBT+ individuals during the holocaust and subsequent atrocities at an event held in Glasgow City Centre at the Cenotaph on Jan 31st. We lit a candle at 8pm to light the darkness in memory of those who were horrifically taken, and those who continue to fight for their freedom and recorded a short video.



AGMs and Seminars

We have been delighted to attend a variety of AGMs and seminars as keynote speakers to address dedicated groups of activists who embrace equalities and who had some great ideas about how to improve LGBT+ equality for their members. The invitations continue to come in and we will attend as many as we can.

The committee are delighted to hear the level of support for our equality agenda this year and look forward to working with branches and SOGs to achieve implementation of model policies and more visibility within employers.



Scottish Disabled Members Seminar



Scottish Young Members AGM



Scottish Ambulance Service AGM

Trans Ally Training

Trans Ally Training course for Scotland Region continue to run with great interventions from activists attending. There have been a variety of requests to run the training and we will arrange further dates throughout the year.

Feedback continues to be positive with huge discussion around the impact of transphobia and discrimination and how activists will support trans people and take actions to negotiate trans inclusion in their workplaces.

New dates will be agreed across the region to run these sessions for branches who request it.



Transpride Brunch



A Pride brunch was arranged for before the Transpride event in the Park Hotel in Kilmarnock to ensure members were fed and watered before the parade.

Stuart Cooper branch secretary addressed attendees giving a rousing speech on equality and the importance of branch support to ensuring successful campaigning and events. A huge thank you to UNISON East Ayrshire Branch for hosting the event.

Transpride Kilmarnock

We kicked off Pride season with a brilliant day at Transpride in Kilmarnock with the UNISON East Ayrshire brunch, followed by a march in blazing sunshine which was very well attended. We marched from Howard Park through the town centre to the Ayrshire college Where we had a huge selection of market stalls.



There was great interaction with the public and members alike, with huge interest in our factsheets and especially our Trans model policy which we eventually ran out of due to its popularity. There is clearly an appetite for our information amongst the community.



There was also a panel discussion with Emma Roddick Cabinet Secretary for Equalities and Refugees alongside members from Transpride and STUC LGBT+ committee.

Huge thanks to all those who attended and assisted at the stall including Lyn Marie O'Hara NEC member and Tracey Dalling previous Scottish Secretary.

National LGBT+ Conference 2024

This year's national conference will be held in Edinburgh for the second time in 2 years. We are delighted to host the conference again in Scotland and will be doing so again in 2025. We will keep members informed of our plans and encourage members and branches to submit motions on issues of importance to our community and for workplace equality.

Organising for local Pride events

Scottish LGBT+ Committee and LGBT+ lead officers continue to formalise our communication strategy and plan for future events in a structured way. We are looking to coordinate Branches to work together for events and to work in a collaborative way to plan for events such as Pride and build a strong Scottish network. If you are a Branch LGBT+ or equality officer, please engage with us and we can support your local organising and add you to our database.

You can get monthly updates direct to your inbox by signing up for our LGBT+ e-bulletin at:
unison.org.uk/out

Scan here for linktree to all
Our Social Media Platforms
Including our padlet

