



WMAS Newsletter

February 2015

SG/CM

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The industrial action UNISON health members held last year, together with the threat of further strikes in 2015, resulted in the government increasing the money they plan to spend on NHS pay from April onwards.

There is a new offer from the government which we believe UNISON health members should have an opportunity to consider. This is why we suspended our strike action and are consulting on the offer that has been made. Members of other NHS trade unions are also being consulted on this offer.

UNISON will accept or reject this offer based on the view of the majority of members – so it is vital that all health members take part in the consultation.

While it is fair to say this is an improved offer in many ways, it is not better for everyone. It does increase pay for our lowest paid members and for the 60% of staff who were subject to the planned pay freeze. However, some senior staff are penalised by it.

UNISON believes that this is the best offer that will be achieved through a negotiation and without the need to continue our programme of industrial action. If the majority of UNISON members are not in favour of accepting it then health members will be asked to take further industrial action starting with a strike on Friday 13 March.

All members will be sent a ballot paper to their home address along with a copy of the A4 2-sided letter from head of health Christina McAnea and a pre-paid return envelope. This needs to be returned by 10am on Monday 2 March 2015. If members do not receive a ballot paper by 20 February they should ring 0800 0 857 857 to request a duplicate.

Many branches will be holding workplace meetings to discuss this offer and what it means for staff and it is important that UNISON members find out what the pay proposals mean for them. There are some frequently asked questions here and UNISON reps can also help answer questions. The union urges all health members to take part in this ballot and have their say on pay.

UNISON

says

FAIR PAY

FOR NHS STAFF

We're **WORTH** *it*

UNISON
the public service union