



Political Information

Care for it?
VOTE FOR IT. 

Last chance to make sure you can vote in the election

- Monday, 20 April, is the deadline for registering to vote in the general election.
- And Tuesday 21 April is the deadline for receipt of postal vote forms.
- In the 2010, election 35% of adults in the UK - including more than nine million women - didn't vote. Rule changes threaten to see many eligible voters mistakenly not registered.
- Make sure you have a voice.
- This government's policies have had a disastrous impact on our public services, and UNISON members who keep them running. And the worst is yet to come if the Conservatives get back into power.
- With everything pointing to the closest election in a generation, and some seats destined to be decided by just a handful of votes, every vote really does matter.
- So don't let the election campaign pass you by.
- To check you're registered - and [to register](#) if you're not - all you need is your name, address, date of birth and National Insurance number. It takes less than 5 minutes.
- And if you can't get to a polling station on 7 May, you can apply for a [postal vote](#).
- You don't even need to say why, but you need to print out and sign a form and that form must be returned and with your local electoral registration office – not your council - by **5pm on Tuesday, 21 April**.

Questions UNISON ask.

- What will you do to tackle low pay for all those delivering public services and will you support the Living Wage being introduced?
- What will you do to end the exploitation of zero hours contracts?
- What will you do about the bedroom tax?
- What will you do to tackle inequality and discrimination in the public sector?
- What measures will you take to ease the cost of living such as childcare, housing, travel and energy bills?
- What will you do to end the scandal of youth unemployment? How will you support the provision of apprenticeships, training and education to assist young people into work?
- What will you do to prevent the privatisation of the NHS?
- What will you do to solve the lack of affordable homes?
- Will you support bringing services back in house in public services?
- Will you honour the recommendations of the Pay Review Bodies?

General election - get ready!

- This is where you'll find everything you need to know about UNISON's preparations for the general election.
- UNISON activists will be using pledge cards to gather support for voting for public services in the general election from UNISON members. Speak to your reps on site for a photo to be taken and shown on our publicity channels
- Pledge your vote to public services by clicking the link [UNISON | UNISON campaigns | General election](#). On the right you input your details supporting Public Services
- **Fact – ONLY 60% of people in the North West voted during the last election**
- Question – Does this election mean something to you?
- Answer – If you care for it Vote for it!

What did the last government do for you?

- Introduced the National Minimum Wage.
- Achieved the shortest waiting lists in NHS history, built many new hospitals and health centres, employing more doctors, nurses and support staff than ever before.
- Pensioners benefited from winter fuel payments, free eye tests, free TV licences and pension credits.
- The New Deal helped two million people into work.
- Nearly 3,500 Sure Start Centres were opened with six in each constituency.
- More than 42,000 teachers and 123,000 teaching assistants were appointed with most schools being either refurbished or rebuilt.
- A free nursery place for every three and four year old.
- Educational Maintenance Allowance for young people staying in education.
- More than £20 billion invested in social housing.
- Free off peak travel on buses for the over 60s and disabled people.
- More than 16,000 extra police officer were appointed alongside 16,000 Police Community Support Officers with the development of community policing.
- Civil partnerships were introduced giving lesbian and gay couples the same inheritance, pension and next of kin rights as married couples.
- Stronger protection against disability discrimination in employment and better access to goods, services, facilities and premises.
- Race Relations Act strengthened and introduced aggravated sentences for racially motivated crimes.
- Signed the European Social Chapter introducing four weeks holiday pay, a right to parental leave, extended maternity leave, the right to request flexible working, and the same protections for part-time workers as full time workers.

BATTLEGROUND FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION – 7th MAY 2015.

Remembers this is about policies that help or hurt your family, not personalities!

THE ISSUE	LABOUR	CONSERVATIVES	LIB - DEMS	UKIP
PARTY ROOTS	Founded as workers' voice in Parliament. After heavy defeat in 2010 has updated policies which mirror UNISON campaigns. Labour Link has a direct voice on party policy.	Party of the wealthy elite, half funded in 2010 by finance sector. From 1979 rolled back public services and trade unionism in many workplaces leading to a race to the bottom on wages and jobs.	After decades out of power, betrayed key election policies to form Coalition with Tories. Without Lib-Dem support, this government could not have cut public services.	Posing as upstarts but policies more anti-worker than Tory's. Committed to cuts and Thatcherism. Blame migrants for problems caused by big business.
THE ECONOMY	Stopped global banking crash causing depression. Admit Banks should have been more regulated. Public investment to boost jobs and growth. Tackle deficit by making wealthiest pay their share.	Used banking collapse to cut public services to lowest level since 1930s. 8% cut in living standards and stalled growth a result. Now make much of belated recovery .Austerity and cuts, not half way through.	Their 'all things to all folk' support base leads to split on economy. Chose to prop up Tories to get power. Slammed, shamelessly, public service spending to justify their action..	Public services not real wealth. Massive cuts , deregulation of business and keeping Thatcherism alive. Deceive voters that massive cuts will not affect front line services.
THE NHS	36000 more front line staff. GP access in 48 hours. Link prevention and care to NHS to NHS to be preferred provider. End the role of the market. Care for the carers. Repeal Tory Bill.	Costly top down re-organisation threatens mass privatisation as services suffer. Cutting care for the elderly sees NHS swamped despite budget ring fenced. Committed to fragmentation.	Talk up NHS and will focus on mental health but lacks concrete policies and commitments. No chance of implementing if Tories biggest party.	Won't guarantee NHS funding – big cuts to non-clinical support staff. Deputy Leader believes NHS can't be afforded.

Simple Last message

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