



3rd February 2023

Dear GMB Member

I write to introduce myself as the newly assigned GMB officer for the London Ambulance Service. I worked as a nurse in the NHS for 28 years before I became a full-time industrial organiser for the GMB. I have led a number of successful campaigns across the NHS for the GMB Union. Details of these campaigns are all available on the GMB Southern Region website and can easily be accessed. These campaigns have put money in the pockets of our member and improved their pay, terms and conditions. Recently one of my ambulance representatives won a significant pay rise for our members in Epsom and St Helier NHS with backpay.

GMB Union recognises that a serious issue has developed with union representation in your workplace and this has been reflected in our failure to assist you to get over the threshold in the recent strike ballots. The union has reflected on the situation as promised and we know that an apology to you is necessary but we want to go further than this and put things right. On Friday 3rd February 2022 I am meeting with our representatives for further discussions on how we can best support you, our members at work, and do better by you.

I also need to say that we are disappointed by a recent communication sent out by the UNISON reps who are also in your management team urging our members to leave the GMB to join UNISON. This is a breach of the TUC regulations and goes against the spirit of trade unions working in solidarity together. The NHS and Ambulance trusts have always been a multi union environment and we deliver more for union members when we work in solidarity, and we don't use tactics that divide the workforce.

I will look forward to meeting you all soon as we will be setting up members meetings and using a range of other methods to get further feedback from you all, so that we can hear your voices and do better.

If you want to get in touch, please do not hesitate to email me on helen.oconnor@gmb.org.uk, or contact me on +44 7506 711 574.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Helen O'Connor'.

Helen O'Connor
GMB Regional Organiser

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