

STOP THE WITCH-HUNT IN UNISON

DEFEND PAT LAWLOR 'GUILTY'

**of supporting workers in struggle & criticising
the inept 'leadership' of UNISON**

Pat Lawlor, Nursing Convenor at the Royal Victoria Hospital Belfast is currently 'under investigation' by the National Executive of UNISON. Pat's alleged 'crime' is that he spoke out in support of striking classroom assistants and for daring to criticise the actions of the leadership of UNISON.

During the classroom assistants strike, Pat did what any decent trade unionist should have done - publicly supported workers on strike. The regional leadership of UNISON refused to do so. Their actions actually undermined the classroom assistants pay and conditions. Because Pat chose to express solidarity with workers in struggle, he now faces disciplinary action being taken against him. He may even be expelled from UNISON.

An attack on every UNISON member

The real reason for this witch-hunt against a UNISON shop steward is to strangle at birth any opposition to the right-wing leadership of UNISON. They are relying on intimidation tactics to silence those who disagree with their 'leadership'. Pat was democratically elected by UNISON members to represent their interests. In contrast, the regional leadership of UNISON has NEVER been elected! Pat has energetically campaigned for UNISON to oppose Agenda for Change, fight low pay, cuts in services and privatisation. Every member of UNISON should have the right to criticise the actions of the leadership. Any disciplinary action taken against Pat Lawlor is an attack on the democratic rights of all UNISON members.

Defend Democracy - Oppose Bureaucracy

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