



## **UNISON HEALTHCARE - BRANCH UPDATE**

**From: Christina McAnea, UNISON National Secretary - Health**

**BRIEFING HC-042-11**

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### **New Duty of Care handbook now available**

#### **Who needs to know?**

- All Health Branches

#### **Summary:**

A new version of UNISON's popular Duty of Care handbook was launched at UNISON Health Conference in Liverpool. The handbook aims to help all health and social care staff to maintain the duty of care to patients/service users, colleagues and the public, particularly when there is pressure on services. See below for further details.

#### **In full:**

Health and social care staff across the UK are being confronted with changes to services, vacancy freezes, increasing workloads and reductions in staffing and budgets. There has never been a more important time to remind us all of the vital importance of raising concerns about the duty of care and acting on them before it is too late.

That's why UNISON has launched an updated version of its popular Duty of Care handbook, a practical guide to empower members to be the guardians of safe, effective and high-quality services.

A hard copy of the handbook has been circulated to branches. Branches can order additional copies via the UNISON website or by emailing [stockorders@unison.co.uk](mailto:stockorders@unison.co.uk) and quoting the stock number 2135, quantities and delivery address.

The handbook, as well as other related resources, are available to download here: [www.unison.org.uk/healthcare/dutyofcare](http://www.unison.org.uk/healthcare/dutyofcare).

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