

# **Model Motion: Support for the Unite Housing Workers Branch – Urgent Appeal**

This branch / committee recognises that the Unite Housing Workers Branch has been steadfastly resisting the race to the bottom in social care and housing. This has included almost forty days of industrial action in the last year, including highly successful action at One Housing Group, St Mungo (Hitchin project) and the Homes and Communities Agency, primarily opposing pay cuts.

Recently, lead Convenor at One Housing Group, Bryan Kennedy, was suspended from his job pending an investigation. It is the view of the Housing Workers Branch that Bryan has been targeted as a direct result of his trade union activities, and this branch/committee therefore deplores the actions of OHG. Bryan led an excellent campaign which mitigated savage cuts to the salaries of front-line workers despite increases to senior management pay and Unite members at OHG are currently balloting for strike action in protest at Bryan's suspension.

Action in the run up to last Christmas at St Mungo successfully raised the contractual benefits of members at a night shelter, and an ongoing campaign at the HCA, which included strike action in March, is continuing to oppose the implementation of a divisive pay offer.

This branch/committee further recognises that major campaigns on this scale drain the resources of individual branches, but that the benefits of victory extend much wider than the branch membership. They deter other employers from cutting pay, terms and conditions, and inspire similar struggles across the sector and beyond.

This branch therefore commits to a donation of £X toward the cost of campaign and strike pay. We will also invite a speaker from one of the campaigns to our next branch meeting.

To invite a speaker, contact Suzanne Muna, Branch Secretary ([suz.muna.unite@gmail.com](mailto:suz.muna.unite@gmail.com)).

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