

# UNISON Scotland *Influencers* Conversation Briefing

## Register to vote by 18 April

Scottish Parliament elections are on 5 May 2016. UNISON are ready to campaign for public services. It's crucial that issues affecting UNISON members and the people who rely on public services, are debated.

### **This is your first Influencer Briefing for the Scottish Parliament elections**

Scottish Parliament decisions impact on those who use public services and those who deliver them. Whether its investment in local government and public services, public sector reform, procurement, welfare spending, taxes, or how we deal with austerity in Scotland. All are crucial to all our lives.

It is therefore vital that UNISON members influence the debate and effect these decisions that effect us all.

We are asking you to lead UNISON's ground campaign: raise issues with members, question candidates, write to papers, use social media, organise hustings, campaign with and challenge all political parties.

UNISON Scotland will produce manifestos, policies, research, guidance, campaign resources and media releases to assist you. [See our new website www.unison-scotland.org](http://www.unison-scotland.org)

### **Stage one is to ensure UNISON members are registered to vote.**

UNISON has over 150,000 members. We are the largest union in Scotland. We are Scotland's public services union. We know UNISON members are more likley to vote and take an interest in politics.

This means UNISON are in a good position to influence the debate in the run up to the vote on 5 May. But unless we are all registered it is for nothing. Your vote matters.

### **IF YOU DO NOT REGISTER TO VOTE BY 18 APRIL 2016, YOU WILL BE TOO LATE TO VOTE ON 5 MAY 2016**

73,000 people have been wiped off the register. Some of these maybe UNISON members. This is also the first time 16 and 17 years olds can vote. Others who are vulnerable to not being registered are students and recent home movers.

### **To have your say you have to be registered to vote!**

## What should we do?

- Encourage UNISON members to check they are registered to vote
- [Publicise 18 April 2016, the closing date for voting registration](#)
- Go online and register to vote <http://www.aboutmyvote.co.uk/register-to-vote>
- [Check out more election material at unison-scotland.org](#)

Defending public services one conversation at a time

For further information contact  
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