



KL/SW

Tuesday, 17th September 2019

Mr. Calum Campbell
Chief Executive
NHS Lanarkshire Headquarters
Kirklands
Fallside Road
Bothwell
G71 8BB

Dear Mr Campbell,

I write following the recent resolution of our dispute with PFI contractor in NHS Lanarkshire, ISS UK.

You will be aware that the foundation of this dispute was an imposed change to ISS's payroll system which saw workers employed as porters, cleaners, maintenance, housekeeping and security at Hairmyres Hospital working for 3 weeks and paid for just 2, with the unpaid wages withheld until the end of their contracts.

You will also be aware that over the course of our campaign to reclaim these lost wages, we reached out to both yourself and the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport, Jeane Freeman, seeking intervention in this dispute on the basis that the contractors behaviour was contrary to the Scottish Government's Fair Work Agenda, as well as the principles of NHS Scotland staff governance policies.

As our members campaigned for the return of their wages, our repeated pleas for NHS Lanarkshire to intervene were effectively ignored, which fuelled a sense of anger and injustice which was only exacerbated when the health board worked directly with ISS in the build-up to the strike.

While I hope that I am correct in saying that those directly employed by NHS Lanarkshire would never be forced into detriment by their employer, that the health board effectively washed their hands of the dispute and left 300 NHS workers to fend for themselves should be a source of shame.

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It begs the question what action will NHS Lanarkshire take to ensure these workers are not feeling like the underclass of the health board, not afforded the same protections rightly extended to directly employed workers?

We understand that the Cabinet Secretary has suggested that NHS Lanarkshire ought to bring the services currently contracted out to ISS back in-house and, as the union who stood by these workers when others turned their cheek, we are keen to understand the health boards views on this suggestion and what factors will be considered when this contract is again up for review.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "K. Leonard".

Karen Leonard

GMB Scotland Organiser