

Sacked for Caring Reinstate Charlotte Munro

Defend the NHS Defend Health Workers

Charlotte Munro, an Occupational Therapist in the NHS for 35 years, was dismissed last year over trade union activities. Her Union UNISON is supporting her to take her case to employment tribunal claiming unfair dismissal.

Concern is growing at a trend by employers to try to silence effective trade union representatives who challenge cuts in the public sector. A culture of bullying and a climate where staff feared consequences if they spoke out was revealed in a Care Quality Commission inspection of Barts Health NHS Trust, the largest in the country. It is Barts Health Trust that dismissed Charlotte.

"We call on the trust to reconsider its decision to dismiss such a long serving and valued health service worker and union official, and to recognise the impact this has on the wider workforce morale and the reputation of the trust. No employer should be allowed to act in this way".

Dave Prentis,
UNISON General Secretary

<http://www.unison.org.uk/unison-statement-re-charlotte-munro>

Safeguard the NHS

In a climate where NHS budgets and services are being cut and contracted out to the private sector, the importance of staff and staff representatives being free to speak out to maintain good quality patient care has been clearly demonstrated by events at Mid-Staffs hospital.

Hundreds of staff are being down-graded and services across East London (as the rest of England) are being cut. As Unison Branch Chair, Charlotte raised concerns of staff over the impact of cuts on patient care with Waltham Forest Health Scrutiny Committee, and discussed job cuts with staff who would be affected.

For this she has been sacked! Late in the process allegations over protest related convictions from the 1960s/ 70s were added. Charlotte has been Chair of her Unison for many years and Saff Side Chair at her hospital Whipps Cross. When Whipps was threatened with closure several years ago she took a leading role in a successful campaign to save it, for which she was later given an award by the Trust Board of the time.

What You Can Do:

- Sign the petition, get colleagues, trade union members, campaigners, friends, relatives etc to sign too.

<https://www.change.org/p/peter-morris-reinstate-charlotte-monro-end-the-bullying-climate-in-the-nhs>

- Discuss at your trade union branch, campaign group, or other meetings, send a resolution.
- Show support at Charlotte's Tribunal on Tuesday 23 September 9.15am at Anchorage House, 2 Clove Cres, London E14 2BE.

Contact: reinstatecharlotte@gmail.com

Also see more information on http://saveournhs-el.org.uk/?page_id=21622 and <http://www.savelewishamhospital.com/reinstate-charlotte-monro/>

The NHS belongs to all of us.

The voice of communities, patients, the health staff and their representatives must be heard, and our contribution to determining the future of services and the NHS be secured. Informed and open debate is needed in a climate of confidence. Email: reinstatecharlotte@gmail.com