

Branch Meeting
Tuesday 29th April
6.30 p.m.

STUC
333 Woodlands Road
Glasgow
G3 6NG



Richard Shaw introduces Michael Fuller, amicus MSF lead officer for the NHS in Scotland, to staff at Yorkhill Hospital.

'Maybe' Verdict on Agenda for Change

A lively and contentious amicus MSF NHS Advisory Committee took place on Friday 28th March. The majority of the meeting was taken up by update reports from Roger Spiller (MSF head of health) and Colin Adkins (one of our negotiators). Both answered many questions from delegates who remained unsatisfied with the lack of details as to how Agenda for Change (AfC) would affect many members. Roger Spiller included in his report the suggestion from the Department of Health that MSF could hold a two

stage ballot rather than an accept/reject ballot. This would involve asking members to agree to the Early Implementer Sites getting the go ahead hoping that more details would be negotiated by putting AfC into place in a small number of NHS trusts in England.

Despite there being three motions to be debated, the chairperson first chose to ask for a vote on the two stage ballot process as outlined by Roger Spiller. This proposal was carried by 21 votes to 5.

Report by Helen McFarlane



Regional Officer Michael Fuller addressing a packed meeting on Agenda for Change at Yorkhill Hospital earlier this month.

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- **Committee Member Stands for Council**
- **Injury Claims Settled**
- **New amicus Head of Health**
- **Cash Boost for Scottish NHS**

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Branch Committee Member Stands for Council

Long serving Branch Committee member Ian Forbes has been reselected to stand for election as the Labour Party candidate in the Neilston North & West Arthurlie ward of East Renfrewshire Council.

During the period since he was elected in 1999, Ian has served as Convener for the environment as well as having corporate responsibility for personnel and information technology.

Despite the time demands of this political activity, Ian has maintained his commitment to the union including being an active Group Representative and attendee at Branch meetings.

Injury Claims

Two members of the Branch have recently had injury claims settled. In the first case the member was awarded £7000, and in the second the individual received £2,750.

Branch members are reminded that the union offers free legal advice, and where necessary representation, for accidents at work (or on the way to/from work). For further details of this service, contact the Branch Secretary.

New amicus Head of Health

Gail Cartmail, currently the union's equal opportunities officer, has been appointed to take over from Roger Spiller as Head of Health. Following her appointment, Ms Cartmail said "I do want to use the media in my new role. Doctors and nurses are always the first port of call for journalists who want to cover the health service. One of my top priorities will be to make it more widely known that behind every doctor and nurse are many backroom people working in the blood transfusion service and other science labs, for example, who are just as important to the patient—and the country".

Cash Boost for Scottish NHS

NHS Scotland is to receive almost £310 million of capital investment for infrastructure and equipment. As well as the money being allocated to NHS Boards, there are specific packages for primary care premises, centrally funded IT projects, investment in cancer equipment and breast screening.

The allocation will increase by a further 12.9% in 2004-05 and 20% in 2005-06.

A consultation document on patient rights has been published by the Scottish Executive Health Department. Details are available from www.scotland.gov.uk

Branch Meeting Tuesday 29th April

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Minutes of previous meeting and arising.
3. Correspondence.
4. Reports.
5. Motions.
6. A.O.C.B.

The next meeting of the Branch will be held on Wednesday 28th May at 6.30 p.m. All meetings are held in the Scottish Trade Union Congress, 333 Woodlands Road, Glasgow G3 6NG.
(Tea, coffee & biscuits 6.15 p.m.)

