

THE NBS WORKER



----- October/November Edition ----- October/November Edition ----- October/November Edition



The brakes are on

The story of NBS bosses' reckless strategy has made some recent headlines. City councils are furious when the proposals make their radar, as they have been totally left out of any talks, beforehand or during the process. The NBS staff (and our elected reps) know exactly how that feels... The arrogant directors think that no other groups have any right to a view on the future of the service. But with more embarrassing bollockings - like they got from Sheffield council - on the way, the plans are now under review - until the start of next year.

Reps have meetings booked with consulting firm McKinsey, chosen by the board to look over the proposals. The bosses have a huge and unfair advantage over the staff, as they can get in there first and lay their arguments on thick. They are also the ones paying the piper... Staff-side reps need as much info about our jobs from us as possible, to take in on our behalf and drown the centralisation plans with. Even if your reps have already been to a review meeting, this info is our best weapon, and it is easy to gather. Why not send a copy of your local staff case to your city council and the media - see more on this later. Send a copy to NBS Worker too - we live for your views!

We all know our own work better than anyone else. The service cuts and changes that the directors are pushing for are just not logical. We talk all the time about how things that are wrong in the NBS could be fixed for the better. Our ideas are valuable, practical and worthwhile, because they are based on the experience of doing the job, and doing it well, every day. We are defending our jobs and the service, but a lot of what is ahead is unknown at the moment. The bosses might have their fingers in their ears, but we are not like them. We want a lifesaving Blood Service for the future and we don't want it left to the suits to wreck with their stupidity. There's no need to wait for this rash scheme like a sentence looming over us. We can talk about and build up a solid plan to eclipse their cost-cutting programmes.

The wheel needs taking back from the joyriders...

For all the latest campaign updates check out the campaign website:-

www.nbs-sos.blogspot.com

or visit the online staff forum:-

www.bloodservicechat.org.uk

You can subscribe to the campaign mailout by sending an email to:-

iww.nbs@gmail.com

SUPPORT ROUND-UP..

- The number of subscribers to the online campaign group "Save Our Blood Service", has now reached 676 people across the country! Facebook users can join this online today, by searching under 'groups' for "Save Our Blood Service."
- "In these testing times of permanent (market based) revolution it is invigorating to see the NBS staff fighting back against the prevailing management ethos of "reconfiguration", for which read redundancies and privatisation." David Parkin (personal capacity), Campaign Administrator, NHS Support Federation—Keep Our NHS Public.

What do YOU think?

Thanks for all your responses to the survey in our last edition. From the answers we received (thanks to all of you who responded!), there was a widespread feeling that we can all relate to, that we enjoy our jobs, but the worst thing is the unbearably heavy management style. In this edition we are asking the same questions again to give as many of us as possible a chance to respond, but we also really want to know what you think we could do to improve things.

[please fill out or circle the following and send to the address below]

- What section of the NBS do you work in?

- Do you know what the restructuring plans will mean for you? YES / NO
- Do you feel you were adequately consulted over the NBS Board's proposal?
YES / NO
- What is good about working for the blood service

- If you could change one thing about the Blood Service what would it be

- What could you and your workmates suggest to improve efficiency in your section of the NBS?

Answers to: iww.nbs@googlemail.com

You can now order **'Don't Mess With the NBS'** stickers FREE from NBS Worker! Every naked lamp-post or bus stop needs one... Just drop a line to the email or post address letting us know where you are + we will send some out to you.

www.bloodservicechat.org.uk

The forum for NBS workers—register today!

For all the latest updates see:-
www.nbs-sos.blogspot.com

How you can help idea #1

Send letters about what the service cuts will mean for your area to your City Council, addressed to:

HEALTH AND COMMUNITY CARE SCRUTINY AND POLICY DEVELOPMENT BOARD

This webpage:-

http://www.cppih.org/ppi_find.php

will tell you contact details for your local NHS Patient and Public Involvement Forum. Let them know all about it too, because the bosses won't have!

Your Letters.

Dear NBS Worker,

Our centre was treated to a visit by our 'dear (stand-in) leader' the other day. He actually said to one of my colleagues 'do you know who I am?'. As if we are supposed to. Well we can tell, but only from the typical groaning waistline and superior attitude. He didn't last long, I see on the intranet we have now been graced with a new shiny happy woman chief exec. A woman in charge does not mean improvement as you will know if you remember the 80s!

Name and address supplied.

JOIN THE CAMPAIGN TODAY

The campaign against the restructuring is growing, and we have started to achieve real victories as we work towards getting the board's plans shelved. But together we are stronger and the more voices we have arguing our case across the country, the more likely we are to win. There are lots of ways you can help the campaign out. If have just an hour or two a week (or more if you want!) to help the campaign we want to hear from you!

Drop us a line by emailing:-
iww.nbs@googlemail.com,
or by texting: 07807 368276
or by writing to:

Save Our Blood Service, c/o Sam, Mission
Print, 82 Fazely Street, Digbeth, B5 5RD

TOGETHER WE ARE STRONGER