

Victory to the Nurses & Midwives!

Workers get wage restraint ... while:

- The richest 300 people in Ireland have €80 billion in wealth.
- The average remuneration for the CEOs of the top 26 companies was €2.3 million last year.
- In 2017, the turnover for BAM, the company profiting from the construction of the Children's Hospital, was €459 million and its pre-tax profits increased to just under €16 million.
- Junior Anglo-Irish bondholders received €270 million in December.

Nurses and midwives have rightly said enough is enough. Enough to pay restraint. Enough to lack of pay parity. Enough to dangerous work practices.

Today's protest, the naming of further days of strike action, the PNA members joining next week's pickets, and the spreading of the pickets to more locations are all further signs that a return to work without real concessions on pay and conditions by the government is not being entertained by the nurses.

The wider public, especially working-class people who have all at some point had to experience our creaking public healthcare system, overwhelmingly support the campaign for pay justice. It is fully understood that decent pay and conditions for nurses and midwives are an absolute requirement in the quest for a decent public healthcare system.



Text JOIN to 087 6522145
www.socialistparty.ie

 **SOCIALIST
PARTY**

What recovery?

Pay restraint, two-tier pay and public services like health that are starved of proper investment, are a by-product of the vicious austerity regime imposed in the interests of the bankers, big business and the super-rich.

Like all workers, nurses and midwives are being offered a piecemeal improvement in their living standards. It is nothing more than the spare change of an economic recovery that is benefiting the wealthiest in our society.

Our needs: the need for affordable housing; the need for top quality public services; the need for decent wages and conditions; are coming into conflict with the interests of private profit.

A rigged system

We get no investment in public services while big business and the super-rich get a low-tax regime, with the average effective rate on profits standing at 10%. We get unaffordable homes and skyrocketing rent, while landlords and developers amass huge wealth at our expense. We get wage restraint and economic precarity, while profits for big business soar.

This is the reality of capitalism today – a rigged economy. It is workers who produce the goods and services in our society. Private profit is the organised theft of the wealth we create.

That's why James Connolly, the pioneer of the Irish labour movement, called socialism "the Great Anti-Theft movement". Join us in the struggle against this capitalist injustice, and for socialist change.

SOCIALIST PARTY STANDS FOR:

Pay the Nurses!

- Immediate reversal of all austerity measures. Tax the wealth and profits of the super-rich and big business.
- All workers need a wage rise. A living wage for all. For wage increases in line with the cost of living.

Unite & fight!

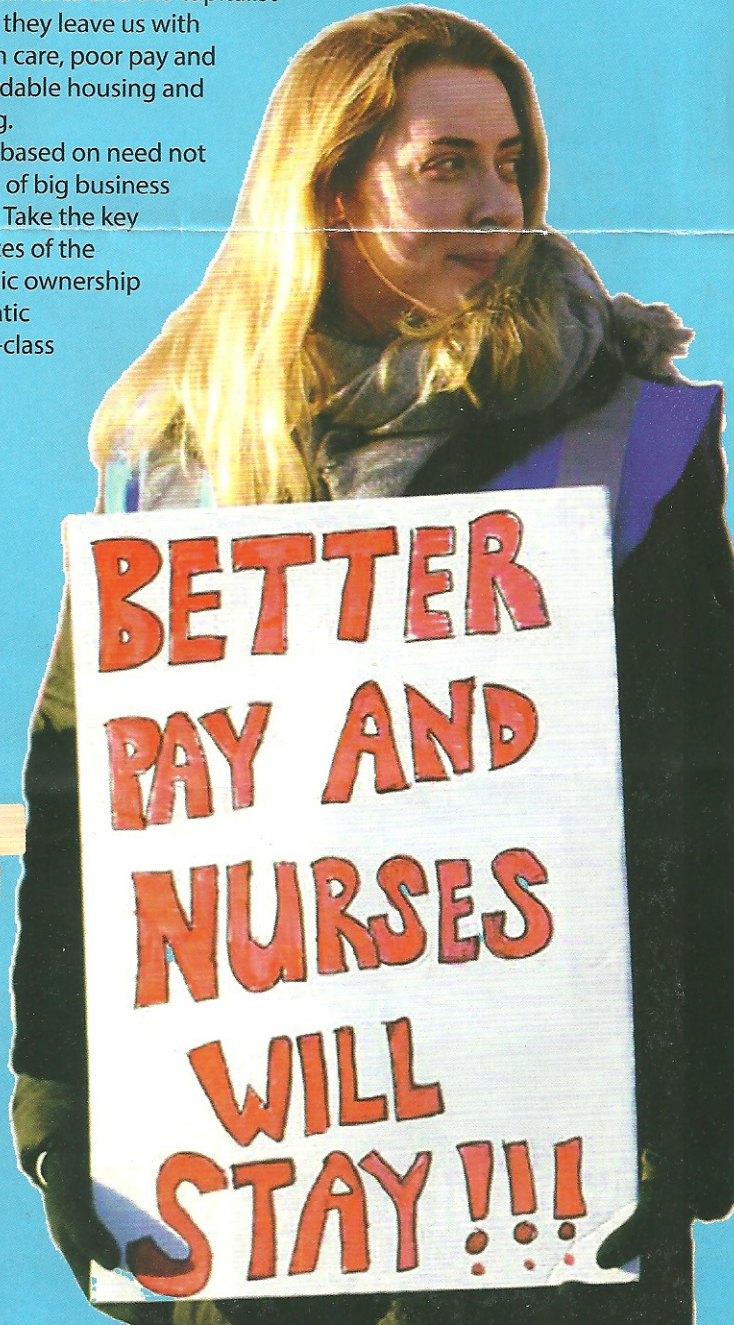
- Nurses and midwives should not stand alone. For workers' solidarity and industrial action to win pay restoration and an end to two-tier pay.
- €250 million was spent in the first nine months of 2018 alone on agency staff. End the outsourcing of jobs in the health service – for all staff to be directly employed.

Separate church & state! For a secular national health service!

- We need a secular, one-tier, national health service that is free at the point of use, and is democratically run by its workforce and service users.
- Take all aspects of healthcare out of the hands of the profiteers – bring the private hospitals, healthcare and pharmaceutical companies into democratic public ownership.

For a socialist alternative to the capitalist rigged economy!

- Reject the EU fiscal rules and the capitalist market economy – they leave us with second-class health care, poor pay and conditions, unaffordable housing and rising costs of living.
- For an economy based on need not on the profiteering of big business and the super-rich. Take the key wealth and resources of the economy into public ownership under the democratic control of working-class people.



**BETTER
PAY AND
NURSES
WILL
STAY!!!**

#Time4Equality
#Walkout4Equality

Join the protest on
International Women's Day
8 March @ 3pm on O'Connell Bridge

1. END gender-based VIOLENCE & harassment
2. End the gender pay gap – for a LIVING WAGE for all
3. End precarious conditions in work and HOUSING
4. Solidarity with the fight for ABORTION rights in the North
5. Solidarity with workers' struggles & struggles against oppression globally

Come to the organising meeting 13 February, 6pm in Unite,
Middle Abbey Street. More info: 086 0674291

Text JOIN to 087 6522145

Title: Victory to the Nurses & Midwives!

Organisation: Socialist Party

Date: 2019

Downloaded from:

SNAPSHOTS OF POLITICAL ACTION

A project from Irish Election Literature and the Irish Left Archive.

irishelectionliterature.com
leftarchive.ie

Snapshots of Political Action is provided as a non-commercial historical resource, open to all, and has reproduced this document as an accessible digital reference. Copyright remains with its original authors. If used on other sites, we would appreciate a link back and reference to us, in addition to the original creators. For re-publication, commercial, or other uses, please contact the original owners. If documents provided to Snapshots of Political Action have been created for or added to other online archives, please inform us so sources can be credited.