

Solidarity with the junior doctors

Defend your NHS

The NHS is being hit from all sides at the moment.

- The imposition of contracts on junior doctors that are not fair on doctors and not safe for patients.
- The threat to stop bursaries paid to student nurses and other health care students that will leave them £50,000 in debt
- Barts Health has the biggest deficit in the history of the NHS and a huge Private Finance Initiative debt bleeding our local health service dry.

It is crucial we fully support the junior doctors and fight off all attacks and demand a properly funded, publically provided NHS.

WALTHAM
FOREST
SAVE OUR
NHS

 BMA

 BMA
#juniorcontract

I SUPPORT THE
JUNIOR
DOCTORS



What you can do.

Visit the junior doctors picket lines at Whipps Cross from 8am on

- Wednesday and Thursday 9-10 March
- Wednesday and Thursday 6-7 April
- Tuesday and Wednesday 26-27 April

Send messages of support and speaker requests to whippscross.ia@gmail.com

Join the Facebook group **Whipps Cross Solidarity** for information, petitions and further activities.



Three threats to your NHS

1 The Junior Doctors' Contract

It was announced at the end of January that the government will press ahead and impose a new contract on junior doctors despite doctors' repeated and outspoken criticisms that the contract is unsafe and unfair. All doctors right from graduation up to consultant level agree this is bad news.

It poses a major threat to patient safety and is likely to drive many doctors out, leaving services over-stretched and doctors' morale in pieces. This is particularly relevant to Whipps Cross where they could face real problems reaching safe staffing levels and being forced to use expensive agency staff will worsen their already challenging financial situation.

Join the doctors in saying NO to this contract.

2 NHS Bursaries

In Autumn last year the government snuck through cuts to NHS student bursaries which could see student nurses being left with over £50,000 worth of debt. The bursaries exist to recognise the huge value the students add to the NHS and to allow anyone to study in these valuable positions.

It will affect not just nurses but student midwives, occupational therapists, speech and language therapists, podiatrists, radiographers, dieticians, operating department practitioners

and possibly paramedics. When asked most of these fantastic staff say they would have been unable to study without their bursary. Where will the next generation of healthcare professionals come from if they can't afford to go to university?

3 PFI Debt

Huge losses at the Barts and the London NHS trust that runs Whipps Cross threatens our local health services. The trust is expecting the biggest financial deficit in the history of the NHS – a whopping £135 million.

Health secretary Jeremy Hunt says next year he will withhold billions of pounds from our hospitals to force them into cutting their deficits. That will likely mean axing vital services and cutting back on essential staff, including doctors and nurses.

A huge chunk of this deficit comes from PFI - whereby private companies raise loans to build and service new Hospitals. The NHS trusts are now expected to pay that money back to the companies who now own the sites. The interest on these loans currently accounts for over 50% of Bart's Health's debt. Join local MP Stella Creasy in asking the government to act on these "legal loan-sharks of the public sector".

For more information about PFI go to <https://peoplevsbartspfi.wordpress.com>

Waltham Forest Save Our NHS - <https://wfsonhs.wordpress.com>