

## **NHS Nursing Pay Settlement**

The Liberal Party notes the considerable interest in the public sector pay settlement which restricted nursing staff to a 1% increase from the 1<sup>st</sup> April.

The pandemic has highlighted the disparity in pay in the public sector and the legions of low paid ancillary staff as well as nurses and doctors without whom the NHS would simply not function.

As such this pay settlement would have been the opportunity to start addressing pay levels within the NHS.

The party acknowledges there are tough decision to be taken with public sector pay but believes that the time for reform is long overdue.

A rewarding salary encouraged recruitment and retention in an organisation which has suffered unprecedented demands and losses during the course of the pandemic.

The party also reiterates its call to re-instate bursaries for trainee nursing staff to encourage recruitment to replenish vacancies lost through retirement and staff turnover.

Policy Development Committee

## **Amendment to Party Policy Statement - Post Brexit UK**

"That this Assembly vote to extend the wording in Paragraph 7 of the Party Policy Statement - Post Brexit UK (agreed on 20 December), adding to the second sentence, after, 'the UK (taking) it's place in CANZUK', a statement indicating a wish to (re-)join EFTA "

Paragraph 7, would then say:-

"We must form strategic trade and reciprocal migration alliances with our closest allies. It's time for the UK to take it's place in CANZUK and rejoin the European Free Trade Association"

Neil Stretton and Stephen Graham

## **Voter photo ID at General Elections**

The Liberal Party notes with considerable disappointment that the government has announced in the Queens Speech(11<sup>th</sup> May) plans to introduce legislation to require photo ID to be presented at polling stations at future general elections.

The party does believe the negligible number of alleged instances of voter personation, which amounted to 150 cases with just 3 convictions between 2015 and 2019, justifies this precondition to exercise your right to vote.

Such requirements remain a disincentive to the elder, ethnic groups and newly enfranchised young voters who may lack access to the photo ID being requested to cast their vote.

Significantly more election fraud occurs within the postal vote and this is a known issue which is already addressed by local electorate services and law enforcement agencies as part of the electoral process.

Liberal Party NEC