

Unite the Union  
128 Theobalds Road  
London WC1X 8TN

Tel: 020 7611 2500  
Fax: 020 7611 2555



**CENTRAL OFFICE**

---

2<sup>nd</sup> December 2014

I am writing to you as General Secretary of Britain and Ireland's largest trade union, Unite.

Regrettably I have to inform you of the potential risk to patients being created by the Board of the Yorkshire Ambulance Service Trust.

Unite members, paramedics on the frontline of service delivery, have exposed:

- Failure to meet national targets for emergency response
- Changes to the manning of ambulances that will put lives at risk
- Proposed cuts to the ambulance fleet despite rising demand
- Alleged manipulation of call-out data to meet targets

As a result of the failure of the YAS Board to heed the warnings of frontline staff and my members' unwillingness to be silenced on issues of patient safety, YAS has attempted to gag my Union by withdrawing our right to be consulted and disciplining Unite representatives on alleged 'trumped-up' charges.

As a key stakeholder with a responsibility to the public and in view of the Trust's imminent final application for Foundation Trust status, I am requesting your agreement for an urgent meeting with my Union to discuss the issues in more detail and to see how we can work together in the best interests of patient safety.

Can you contact my office (Lynne Goodwin: email [lynne.goodwin@unitetheunion.org](mailto:lynne.goodwin@unitetheunion.org), Tel: 020 7611 2592) as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Len McCluskey".

**Len McCluskey**  
**General Secretary**