

THANK YOU

for everything you've done in 2021!

Dear public ownership hero,

Thanks to you, there's a lot to celebrate at the end of 2021. This year, many thousands of you have taken action for public services for people, not profit.

You've campaigned from every corner of the UK to defend our NHS, to fight for better buses, to protect Channel 4, in big ways and small:

- You've signed petitions
- You've written to your MP
- You've responded to government consultations
- You've spread the word to your friends and family
- You made days of action happen all over the country and got into the local press
- Many of you have donated generously to We Own It – making all of our campaigns possible in the first place.

THANK YOU! We're so grateful for everything you've done in 2021.

Have a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year!

Cat, Alice, Johnbosco, Matthew, Tom and Zana –
the We Own It team

December 2021



You've achieved a lot this year ...

You've been standing up for our **NHS**



The government's new Health and Care Bill opens up our NHS to further privatisation but you're fighting back against it:

- You sent a clear message about which side you're on in the tug of war for our NHS! In July, hundreds of you took to the streets and staged local 'tug of war' actions between communities and corporations (with masks of Richard Branson, Boris Johnson, and Sajid Javid)
- Our polling – thanks to donations from many of you – shows the majority of the public is AGAINST private companies sitting on NHS decision-making boards
- Almost 10,000 of you emailed the Public Bills Committee to demand that private companies like Virgin Care should not be allowed to sit on NHS decision-making bodies

As a result of your pressure, the government amended the bill to make it less likely that private companies would sit on those bodies. Next year we'll work with you to push for an outright ban.



You've won a victory for buses that work for passengers not profit!



This year you won a victory in Greater Manchester! Years of hard work paid off as Mayor Andy Burnham promised to bring buses into public control for the first time since Thatcher's deregulation of buses.

Thanks to everyone in Manchester and beyond who took action to make this happen! This is a game changer that sets a precedent for other cities around the UK to follow.

Now Better Buses Campaigner Matthew is working hard to win public control of buses in West and South Yorkshire. Together with you, he's already winning commitments from politicians to crack on with running buses for people not profit.



You've pushed back against the privatisation of Channel 4

The actions you've taken to stop Channel 4 being privatised are having an impact. Around 5000 of you wrote detailed responses to the government's consultation on Channel 4, and 8614 of you wrote to your MP.

Culture Secretary Nadine Dorries now says she wants to read your consultation responses before making a decision. Watch this space...

You've won victories against Centene, the multinational corporation that wants to take over GP surgeries



When an American multinational corporation, Centene, took over 49 NHS GP surgeries, thousands of you demanded that they be kicked out. Profit-seeking has no place in our NHS. And guess what, you are winning!

After months of incredible work from you and local activists, North Central London health leaders decided to end Centene's contract with two Islington GP surgeries as soon as July next year. You also got a victory in North West London with the length of Centene's contract being reduced.

We Own It is also working with Keep Our NHS Public, Doctors in Unite and 999 Call for the NHS, backing a judicial review of the decision to allow the takeover. Let's keep up the pressure to kick profit-greedy Centene out of our NHS for good!

In the news

'A legalised scam' – Water industry profits billions while UK rivers filled with sewage

WATER bosses in England have paid out £61 billion in dividends over the last three decades as firms stand accused of allowing raw sewage to pollute rivers.

By **STEPH SPYRO**

15:50, Wed, Nov 17, 2021 | UPDATED: 18:11, Wed, Nov 17, 2021

How do we avoid an expensive winter?
Take energy back into public ownership
Cat Hobbs

Pressing ahead with a green new deal that reverses decades of privatisation is the key to better utilities

● Cat Hobbs is the founder of *We Own It*, an organisation that campaigns for public ownership of public services

In 2021, We Own It was quoted in the BBC, Canary, Express, Evening Standard, FT, Ferret, Guardian, Herald, Independent, inews, ITV, Labour List, Labour Outlook, Left Foot Forward, London Economic, Manchester Evening News, Metro, Mirror, Morning Star, National, New European, New Statesman, Open Democracy, Politics Home, Tribune, Week, and Yorkshire Post.

Protests outside Parliament against NHS waiting list 'limbo'

Tony Perks, 74, said he has waited for more than two years for a test.



EXCLUSIVE: Tory MPs including Sajid Javid cashing in from links to private health firms

EXCLUSIVE: Health Secretary Sajid Javid holds share options in a California tech firm that provides artificial intelligence software to the health sector, which Labour calls a "clear conflict of interest and breach of the ministerial code"

By **Martin Bagot**, Health and Science editor

20:10, 21 Nov 2021 | UPDATED 20:52, 21 Nov 2021



A dozen Tory MPs including Health Secretary Sajid Javid benefit from links to private health firms, we can reveal.

Privatisation going off the rails

If we brought our railway into public ownership we could save £1 billion a year, money that could be reinvested into better services and lower fares. As the private companies on our privatised railway fail, franchises are coming back into public ownership one at a time – the East Coast line (June 2018), Northern (March 2020), Transport for Wales (February 2021), Southeastern (October 2021) and ScotRail (April 2022). Why not just bring the whole railway into public hands?!

The East Coast line. Northern.
Wales. Scotland. **Now Southeastern.**

We need local public health not privatised Test and Trace



It's outrageous that the government spent £37 billion on a privatised Test and Trace system that hasn't kept us safe. Thanks to your pressure – through local actions earlier this year, as well as the work you did emailing council leaders and pushing for council motions, We Own It and Zero Covid achieved a partial win as some local authorities were given new funding in June 2021 to run track and trace without Serco.

We Own It in numbers

You're making us a force to be reckoned with...

At the end of 2021 we have

138,500

newsletter subscribers

50,000

Facebook followers

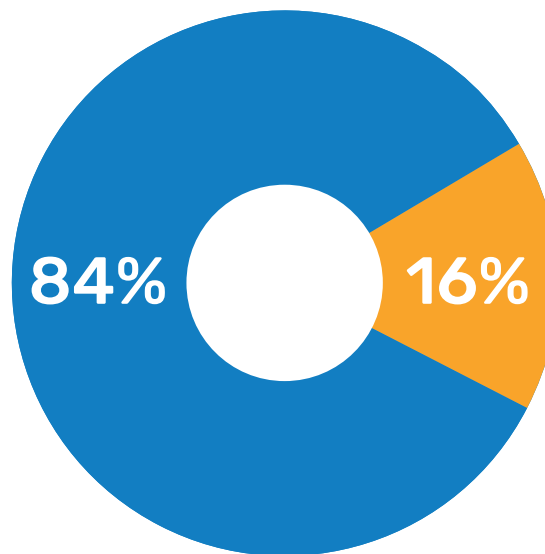
47,000

Twitter followers

84% of our funding comes from individual donations from lovely people like you!

In the last financial year –

Individual donations,
large and small,
from **4902** generous
people like you!



**Foundation
for Integrated
Transport**

Why I support We Own It



"I support We Own It because of its wide-ranging public ownership campaigns from buses to council services and the Land Registry to the Met Office, which is based here in Exeter. We Own It is a small team, expertly led by Cat, making a big impact. The brilliant Thursday lunchtime seminars are not only informative, entertaining and inspiring, but also an excellent example of an inclusive organisation, allowing supporters to contribute their ideas and their thoughts in developing We Own It campaigns."

Mark Allen, donor and supporter since 2016

In 2022, let's make the fight for public ownership even bigger

Here are some ways you can help:

Make a Christmas donation

<https://weownit.org.uk/donate>

Tell a friend or family member
about We Own It

Set up a gift to us
in your will

Get the message out -
visit our shop for T-shirts
<https://weownit.teemill.com/>

Give us feedback!
We always love hearing
what you think

Watch this space...
we can't wait to keep campaigning
with you in the New Year!



www.weownit.org.uk

Email: info@weownit.org.uk



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