

## PAY UPDATE

In August, employers' body COSLA increased its pay offer to Scottish teachers to 5%. NASUWT members were asked for their views on this in a snapshot pay survey:

- 82% of those responding said that this offer was unfair in current circumstances;
- 83% advised that the NASUWT should reject the offer.

The NASUWT Salaries Committee met on 2 September and formally endorsed the members' rejection of the offer. This decision was shared at a meeting of the SNCT Teachers' Panel on 6 September and the NASUWT advised that we were preparing for a statutory ballot. Unfortunately, at that meeting, most other constituent unions were not in a position to formally reject the offer as they were still in the process of consulting members.

A further meeting of the SNCT Teachers' Panel took place on 21 September, by which time all but one of the teacher Unions had completed their consultative processes, and the offer of 5% was formally unanimously rejected, the employers' side was informed that day and an SNCT dispute declared.

To support preparations for a statutory ballot, members are reminded to ensure their contact details are up to date: this can be done on our website (as long as you are registered). Go to [www.nasuwt.org.uk/Login](http://www.nasuwt.org.uk/Login).

## PAY BRIEFINGS

NASUWT General Secretary Dr Patrick Roach is delivering a Pay and Industrial Action Briefing on Wednesday 28 September at 5.30pm in the STUC Centre at 8 Landressy Street, Bridgeton, Glasgow G40 1BP.

If you have not already done so, register with [Scotland@mail.nasuwt.org.uk](mailto:Scotland@mail.nasuwt.org.uk) (Tel: 0131 226 8480) to attend.

As well as the in-person Briefing from the General Secretary in Glasgow, a series of online Briefings are planned for members across the country:

Monday 26 September, 5.00pm: Stirling, Falkirk, Clackmannanshire, Midlothian, East Lothian

Tuesday 27 September, 5.30pm: Aberdeen City

Thursday 29 September, 4.30pm: Angus

Tuesday 4 October, 4.30pm: Fife

Wednesday 5 October, 5.00pm: Moray, Perth & Kinross, Highland, Dundee, Western Isles, Shetland

Wednesday 5 October, 5.00pm: Dumfries & Galloway, Borders

Thursday 6 October, 4.30pm: Aberdeenshire

Please request a link/registration via [Scotland@mail.nasuwt.org.uk](mailto:Scotland@mail.nasuwt.org.uk) (tel: 0131 226 8480) if you wish to attend.

## BETTER DEAL CAMPAIGN

In support of our campaign to demand a Better Deal for Scottish Teachers, members can still write to MSPs about the inadequate 5% pay offer: [www.nasuwt.org.uk/BetterDealForScotlandTeachers](http://www.nasuwt.org.uk/BetterDealForScotlandTeachers).

*(continued overleaf)*

The NASUWT also issued a Briefing on Pay to all MSPs on their return to the Scottish Parliament which can be found at the same link.

The NASUWT was also present at the STUC Rally at the Scottish Parliament on 8 September ('Scotland Demands a Pay Rise'), where National Official Mike Corbett gave a rousing speech.

Individual members who are willing to go on record about how the cost of living crisis is affecting them should contact the Scotland Centre who can arrange for an interview to be conducted and/or a video to be recorded to allow grassroots members' stories to get wider circulation.

## HEALTH AND SAFETY

On 15 August, a letter was sent to the Cabinet Secretary setting out the measures the NASUWT is calling for to prevent a winter of absences in schools, including: additional funding and direction to schools to improve ventilation; HEPA air-filtration devices to all schools; additional funding to schools to cover supply costs for teaching and support staff absences; lateral flow tests made available for free to all staff and pupils; clear public health guidance for education settings; a broader public health messaging campaign on vaccination; re-emphasis on the need for COVID risk assessments; reinstatement of SNCT circular 22/89 on COVID absences; and meaningful wellbeing support to staff.

A response was received from the Cabinet Secretary and both letters can be accessed here, as well as the latest advice for members: [www.nasuwt.org.uk/CovidAdvice19Scotland](http://www.nasuwt.org.uk/CovidAdvice19Scotland).

Members are encouraged to contact their local NASUWT Representative or the Scotland Centre with any concerns around COVID, especially those relating to CO<sup>2</sup> monitoring/ventilation.

The Scotland COVID-19 Public Inquiry is slowly beginning to grind into action. The NASUWT is keen to hear from any members who would be willing to share their personal story (e.g. of Long COVID) with the Inquiry. This can be done anonymously, if desired.

## WORKING TIME AGREEMENTS

Advice developed for a Working Time Agreement (WTA) training session has been uploaded to the website and any member who is involved in WTA negotiations is encouraged to view this here: [www.nasuwt.org.uk/WorkingTimeScotland](http://www.nasuwt.org.uk/WorkingTimeScotland).

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

1-2 October	STUC Black Workers' Conference, Clydebank
8-10 October	SNP Conference, Aberdeen
26 October	NASUWT Managing Stress in the Workplace training, online
31 Oct-1 Nov	STUC Women's Conference, Glenrothes
2-3 November	NASUWT Workplace Representatives training, Edinburgh
5 November	NASUWT Scotland Health & Safety seminar, Edinburgh
16 November	NASUWT Mental Health First Aid training (taster), Edinburgh

For further information on any of these events, please contact the Scotland Centre on 0131 226 8480 or [scotland@mail.nasuwt.org.uk](mailto:scotland@mail.nasuwt.org.uk).



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