

## **Supply Teachers' Conference**

The Supply Teachers' Conference, held on 23 September at the Hilton Metropole Birmingham, saw supply teachers gather from across the UK to hear a keynote speech from the General Secretary, followed by a question and answer session with guest speakers from the Employment Agency Standards (EAS) Inspectorate, the Labour Market Directorate and the Resolution Foundation.

## **Supply Teachers' Consultation Forum**

The NASUWT consultation forum continues to provide supply teachers with the opportunity to discuss the work undertaken on their behalf by the Union, as well as providing advice on policy issues and feedback on general work-related issues affecting supply teachers.

Positive and helpful advice was received and this feedback will now be used by the Union to inform the ongoing activity on behalf of supply teachers.

The next national supply teachers' consultation forum will take place on the evening of 23 February at the University of Warwick.

For further details, contact the Conferences and Events team at [conferencesandevents@mail.nasuwt.org.uk](mailto:conferencesandevents@mail.nasuwt.org.uk).

## **2017 NASUWT Supply Teacher Survey**

The 2017 survey demonstrates the continuing need for urgent action by Government, employers and agencies to address the concerns of supply teachers as a vital and integral part of the education workforce.

Key findings from the latest survey can be downloaded from the Supply Teachers section of the website at [www.nasuwt.org.uk/advice/supply-teacher.html](http://www.nasuwt.org.uk/advice/supply-teacher.html).

## **Taylor Review of Modern Working Practices**

The NASUWT was the only teachers' union to be invited to give further evidence at a Ministerial Roundtable following the publication of the Taylor Review of Modern Working Practices.

The NASUWT made it clear that the Taylor Review lacked teeth in a number of key areas, where it did not go far enough in calling for greater enforcement of compliance and the need for tougher regulation.

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The Union also made a number of recommendations to the Ministerial Roundtable, including the need for:

- proper regulation of the employment agency market and for codes of practice to have statutory powers of enforcement;
- the removal of unnecessary and prohibitive finder's fees which prevent many supply teachers gaining permanent employment; and
- action against agencies that seek to force workers to sign with umbrella companies.

## **Labour Market Enforcement Director**

The NASUWT was the only teachers' union to secure a meeting with Sir David Metcalf as part of his consultation on the Labour Market Enforcement (LME) Strategy 2018/19.

The subsequent submission by the NASUWT should form part of the LME Strategy which is due to be published in 2018.

## **Finder's Fees Campaign**

Transfer/finder's fees are applied by supply agencies when a school seeks to offer a supply teacher a substantive post. Typically, the school pays the agency a percentage of the salary that the supply teacher would have earned had they continued to be employed as an agency worker. Transfer/finder's fees can be as high as £10,000.

The NASUWT has written to the Secretary of State for Education to highlight the concerns that the deployment of extortionate and inappropriate finder's fees in education are restricting or even removing the right to work for many agency workers, especially for women, black and minority ethnic (BME) and disabled workers who are disproportionately represented as agency workers.

The NASUWT wants to shine a light on this practice and the way in which it denies supply teachers access to permanent work. Further details of the campaign, along with a template letter for you to use, are available from the Supply Teachers section of the website at: [www.nasuwat.org.uk/advice/supply-teacher.html](http://www.nasuwat.org.uk/advice/supply-teacher.html).

## **NASUWT Trade Dispute**

Following the 2017 General Election, the NASUWT has now established a series of meetings with Department for Education (DfE) officials, as part of the national trade dispute, and will report on these in future bulletins.



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