

The NASUWT membership has increased within Directorate of Children and Young People (DCYP) (the Service Children's Education (SCE) sector and Queen Victoria School, Dunblane) and the Union's influence has continued to grow across schools in Germany, Cyprus and other Ministry of Defence (MOD) establishments around the world.

The NASUWT now represents the vast majority of the teaching staff in this sector.

Voluntary Early Release Scheme

Following representation from the NASUWT to seek a definitive answer on the exit payments that will be payable to teachers affected by Germany Drawdown, DCYP is preparing a submission to HM Treasury to seek authority to continue to make exit payments in line with the original scheme. The NASUWT is the only union to consistently lobby DCYP on this issue and has written to the appropriate ministers on this matter.

Following further meetings between DCYP and the NASUWT in May, DCYP has confirmed that:

- the Voluntary Early Release Scheme (VERS) arrangements for this year will continue in accordance with the existing provisions of the scheme;
- the substantive scheme will remain the same in subsequent years, notwithstanding changes to regulations or legislative provisions, contained therein, which might dictate amendments to certain aspects of the scheme in the future. For example, if the regulations around teachers' premature retirement are changed, those changes will be reflected within the scheme but the remaining provisions of the scheme, which would be unaffected by such a change, will remain in place and unchanged;
- they would wish the provisions to remain the same.

DCYP will be making a business case to seek authority from HM Treasury to continue to make exit payments in line with the original scheme, even if that exceeds the provisions within the Teachers' (Compensation for Redundancy and Premature Retirement) Regulations 2015; or any limits imposed as part of the Government's wider public sector exit payments arrangements.

It is only as a result of the NASUWT's intervention that DCYP has agreed to seek exemption for MOD teachers in line with recent consultation outcomes. The NASUWT will also continue to engage in any consultation in relation to the business case being put by DCYP and will also continue to make its own representation to the appropriate agencies. The NASUWT will issue further advice to members pending further developments.

Continued overleaf

Queen Victoria School (QVS) Job Sizing and Pay

As a result of intervention by the NASUWT, a job-sizing exercise was carried out in June 2016 to allow principal teachers to access a nationally recognised pay point. As a result of this exercise being completed successfully, this specific group of teachers were able to access national pay awards backdated for three years.

It had been agreed that this would be processed as soon as possible and certainly by January 2017.

The NASUWT recently became aware that this matter, for a variety of reasons, had not been actioned. The NASUWT made it clear to the employer that any further delay would not be acceptable and that they ran the real risk of industrial action if the matter was not resolved. As a result of this intervention by the NASUWT, the MOD has now confirmed that the pay changes for QVS promoted teachers' will be implemented manually in the June 2017 payment.

