

March 2019

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## STATUTORY BALLOT FOR INDUSTRIAL ACTION

The EIS has given notice to Local Authorities that we will be opening a ballot for national strike action on Monday 11 March in pursuit of the Teachers Pay Claim. The ballot will close on Thursday 4 April 2019.

As it is a statutory ballot, legally it must be conducted by post. Our independent balloting service will be issuing postal ballots to members home addresses on 11 March. Please make members aware of the nature of this ballot and advise that any member who has not received a ballot paper by 14 March should email [ballot@eis.org.uk](mailto:ballot@eis.org.uk)

This ballot is extremely important as failure to gain a strike mandate will weaken our position in the Value Education, Value Teachers pay campaign, and indeed our ability to protect and further members' interests.

As a result of the Trade Union act, we need at least 50% of members voting and 40% of the electorate to vote Yes. Not voting is effectively voting no.

**Action for Representatives:** Please advise members of the information above. Please also display the enclosed EIS posters within your establishment. We have provided 'I have voted' stickers to all school reps to share with members appropriately. The critical issue for reps is to maximise turnout. The most effective way to achieve this is to speak directly with members urging them to use their vote. If you require support of any kind, please contact your LA Secretary. EIS Organisers and Area Officers are also available to support school reps. Further EIS resources are available on our website.

### Council Elections 2019

The EIS Council for 2019 – 2020 has now been confirmed. The EIS President for 2019-2020 will be Bill Ramsay, South Lanarkshire with Heather Hughes or Carole Thorpe as Vice-President. Full details of the results of Council 2019/2020 can be found in the enclosed booklet and on our website.

**Action for Representatives and Branch Secretaries:** Please make the enclosed booklet with Council results available to members in your establishment.

## Research Action Grants

The application process is now open for grants to support research to be undertaken in session 2019-20. The purpose of the EIS action research grants is to facilitate both learning and action, and in doing so, offer teaching professionals the opportunity for personal and professional development through enquiry. Grants of £500 are awarded and all EIS members are eligible to apply. The closing date for applications is 12 noon on Friday 26 April 2019. Further information is available at [www.eis.org.uk/Professional-Learning/ActionResearchGrants](http://www.eis.org.uk/Professional-Learning/ActionResearchGrants)

**Action for Representatives and Branch Secretaries:** Please make members aware of the Action Research Grants.

## Violence Against Women – A Workplace Issue Workshop

The STUC Women's Committee, in partnership with Scottish Union Learning, is providing a workshop to raise awareness about Violence Against Women and ways that unions can support women at work who are affected by domestic violence.

In this interactive workshop we will look briefly at the spectrum of violence against women, the root causes and the extent of the problem, and the links between different kinds of violence. The majority of the workshop will focus specifically on sharing good practice in responding to domestic abuse.

The workshop will take place on Friday 22 March 2019 in the Spectrum Centre, Inverness, from 9.30am to 4pm with lunch and refreshments included. You can register at [www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/inverness-course-violence-against-women-a-workplace-issue-workshop-tickets-55967260583](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/inverness-course-violence-against-women-a-workplace-issue-workshop-tickets-55967260583)

**Action for Representatives and Branch Secretaries:** Please let members know about the upcoming workshop.

## EIS Professional Learning Conference, Edinburgh

Save the Date: The Professional Learning Conference will take place on Saturday 11 May 2019. This half-day conference will focus on Additional Support Needs. Further updates regarding registration and agenda will be issued shortly.

**Action for Representatives and Branch Secretaries:** Please let members know about the upcoming conference.

## Page Scholarship 2019/20

Application forms are now available for the 2019/20 Page Scholarship involving a research visit to America, offered by the EIS in association with the English-Speaking Union.

Besides being EIS members, applicants must also have 5 years' teaching experience. The Scholarship is awarded annually to a teacher/lecturer in a Scottish school/college and is intended to promote small-scale educational research and exchange of ideas between Britain and America.

The successful Scholar travels to the USA to study a specific aspect of American education which interests her/him, and which is relevant to her/his own professional responsibilities here in Scotland. Contact Leigh Meechan at [lmeechan@eis.org.uk](mailto:lmeechan@eis.org.uk) for more information.

**Action for Representatives and Branch Secretaries:** Please make relevant teachers or lecturers in your establishment aware of this opportunity. Application forms should be addressed to the EIS Education Department at 46 Moray Place, Edinburgh, EH3 6BH. For further information please contact Leigh Meechan ([lmeechan@eis.org.uk](mailto:lmeechan@eis.org.uk)).

## EIS Organisers

The work of EIS Organisers focuses on the recruitment and retention of members and developing wider membership engagement with the union. Part of their role is also to support the EIS campaigning agenda; they help communicate key campaign and policy messages to members in their workplaces. Organisers are assisting L.A.'s and schools in the current pay campaign and are available to help support you in your school.

**Action for Representatives and Branch Secretaries:** If you wish advice or support regarding engaging members in your school with the pay campaign, then contact your EIS Organiser through [www.eis.org.uk/Contacts/Organisers](http://www.eis.org.uk/Contacts/Organisers)