

Bulletin

for EIS Representatives and Branch Secretaries

Scotland's largest
and most effective
education trade union

eis

January 2019

www.eis.org.uk



**VALUE
EDUCATION
VALUE
TEACHERS**

BALLOT SPECIAL

Following a meeting of EIS Council on 25th January, it was decided that the EIS would hold a consultative ballot on the final pay offer from the Scottish Government and COSLA, and that the statutory ballot on the January 7th offer would be suspended.

Consultative Ballot

The Ballot Process

Ballot materials will be emailed on 31st of January to members for whom the EIS has an email address.

Voting electronically will require a two-part security code, which will be included in the email. If we do not have a member's email address on our membership system, ballot materials and instructions will be issued by first class post.

EIS Council recommends **REJECTING** the offer. In the event of a rejection the EIS will move to a statutory ballot for strike action.

The Offer

The COSLA letter is enclosed for information with this bulletin and has been published on the EIS website, as has an illustrative table of the impact of the offer on pay scales.

Issues with Voting

If members haven't received their ballot papers by Friday 1st February 2019, they should be advised to email our membership department at ballot@eis.org.uk stating the following information:

- Name
- Email address or home address
- Membership number (if known)
- The name of their school.

Alternatively, they can call the membership department on 0131 220 2268 between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday.

NB If members were expecting the ballot email but have not received it, please ensure they check their SPAM folder before contacting EIS HQ.

Maximising Turnout

The Trade Union Act, 2016, means that unions must achieve a turnout of 50% or more in a statutory industrial action ballot. In order for action to be legal, a further threshold of 40% of support to take industrial action from all eligible members must be met. This means that all non-voters are effectively a "no" vote.

Although this is not a statutory ballot, it is critical that we meet these thresholds to show both Scottish Government and COSLA that our members are serious, and that strike action is increasingly likely if there is no negotiated settlement.

Action for Reps

- Please make members aware of the forthcoming ballot.
- Please check your school membership details and inform the Membership Department of any changes.
- Please advise members who haven't received ballot materials to contact the EIS as indicated.
- Please display the enclosed poster prominently in your establishment and encourage all members to reject this offer.
- We encourage you to hold a meeting with members to discuss the ballot, using the enclosed information. If you wish a speaker to the school, please contact either your Local Association Secretary or one of the EIS Organisers.
- Please draw the attention of members to the EIS webpage which contains links to all relevant ballot materials.