National Bargaining News

10th February 2022

News from EIS/FELA National Reps

CONSULTATIVE BALLOT OPENS ON FRIDAY

NEWS

In an EIS/FELA survey conducted last week members overwhelmingly rejected the current salary offer from Colleges Scotland.

The EIS/FELA National Executive met last Friday and agreed to conduct an indicative ballot of FELA members on both strike action and action short of strike.

Members are advised by the FELA Executive Committee to vote YES to both strike action and action short of strike. By demonstrating your willingness to take action you will send a clear message to your employers that enough is enough on pay.

The consultative ballot will be carried out online, and is an internal process for the union where we ask members if they are willing to take action in response to their decision to reject the offer.

We have now formally declared a dispute with the Employers nationally over our salary claim.

Your negotiators meet Colleges Scotland for the first dispute meeting on Monday, 14th February. We will send you a video update immediately after the meeting takes place.

At the moment Colleges Scotland are offering an £850 per annum increase in pay, plus a one off "thank you" payment

Backlash after Bank boss says don't ask for big pay rise

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not to ask for big pay rises, to help stop prices rising out of control.

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-60252340

of £150 for all of your efforts over the past two years of the pandemic.

As every day goes by we hear another story of rises in the cost of living. You may also have picked up on reports that the boss of the Bank of England has asked workers not to ask for big pay rises.

A number of trade unions have responded angrily to the Bank boss. Have a look at the link above.

Your union believes that you should not have to face a severe cut in your living standards at the same time as you are expected to increase your workload.

We will keep you posted on the meetings with Colleges Scotland which will seek to resolve our dispute.

A consultative ballot on pursuing an improved pay

via industrial action opens on Friday 11th February 2022. Please vote as soon as you can.



Price inflation: The heat is on







- Price inflation is already evident, from margarine to mince to used cars and petrol
- But it is rare to foresee how much higher it is going to get, as the cap is raised on household energy costs.

A sharp rise in price inflation has rarely, if ever, been so well-signalled. On 1 April, the price cap on household fuel goes up - a lot.

Today, we find out precisely how much.

A few days after that increase, employers and employees see a significant hike in National Invariance contributions, and council tax bills will surely rise - meaning less disposable income.

Price inflation has already been getting well out of its 2% target zone, most recently at 5.4% for year-on-year increases across a big basket of goods and services.

- Millions braced for huge rise in energy prices
- What's the energy price cap and why is it going up
- Four things that are going up in price and why

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-scotland-business-60238965

Please ensure that your membership details, including your email address, are up to date.

Look out for updates, keep in touch with branch officials and don't accept the message from the Bank of England boss who is very well paid for his work.

Your Exec believes that you are worth a fair cost of living rise, and the cost of living is rising at quite a rate.

Look out for updates, keep an eye on your inbox on Friday morning and remember £850 is not enough!