

National Bargaining News

January 2019 STRIKE DAY SPECIAL News from the national negotiators

Solid support for strike

Lecturers across the country joined picket lines on Wednesday 16th January for the third period of strike action in three years.

The strike was solid across the country with branches reporting healthy numbers on picket lines despite the freezing rain (and in Stornoway, snow—in a picket line first, the branch managed to burn peat in an oil drum...)

Lecturers expressed their anger at management's intransigence and disregard for lecturers, learners and the sector as a whole.

There can be few occasions when a strike could have been more easily avoided than yesterday's action.

What we have asked for is not greedy or unreasonable.

We submitted a revised pay claim in December 2018, proposing flat rated consolidated pay rises of £425 (2017/18), £1,080 (2018/19) and £1,080 (2019/20) for all members. This is based on public sector pay policy and the offer that college support staff have already been offered and accepted.

Management has had ample opportunity in the last two years to negotiate a meaningful cost of living settlement for lecturers.

We offered AGAIN to meet management before the strike day. We offered to meet with them anywhere and at any time. Management REFUSED to meet us before the strike day, and responsibility for the strike lies firmly at their door.



Waiting for management to #NegotiateNow

Management has confirmed a meeting for 24th January, but in the meantime, has continued to conflate equal pay with a cost of living pay rise, making wild and misleading claims, with possibly the most audacious statement of all, "the EIS need to get back around the table".

We never left the table, and our demand is simple—management must end this nonsense and #NegotiateNow. If they are incapable of doing this, the Scottish Government must step up to the plate and intervene.

We will meet management on 24 January, and we will update you as soon as we have further news.

Coverage from Strike Day:

We broadcast the lobby of Parliament live on FB, watch again here:

<https://www.facebook.com/honourthedeal/videos/1759634807498738/>

Radio Scotland <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m0002177>

CommonSpace <https://www.commonspace.scot/articles/13735/we-are-not-greedy-striking-college-lecturers-offer-show-force-outside-holyrood>

TES <https://www.tes.com/news/stalemate-pay-not-down-union->



Perth



Borders (Newton St Boswells)



Ayrshire College (Ayr)



Edinburgh (Sighthill)



Dundee & Angus (Left—Gardyne, Right—Arbroath)



New College Lanarkshire (Motherwell)



Glasgow Clyde—Cardonald



Lews Castle



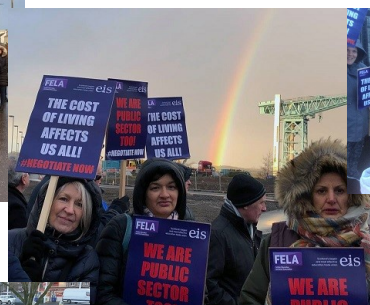
Shetland College



Dumfries & Galloway College



West College Scotland



Glasgow Kelvin (Easterhouse)



Edinburgh (Granton)



NCL Coatbridge



South Lanarkshire NESCol Aberdeen (below), Fraserburgh



Forth Valley (Falkirk)



Borders (Galashiels)



Ayrshire College (Kilwinning)

