



Issue 335 25th April - 1st May 2022

## College staff urged 'vote yes to strike' in ballot across Scotland

UNISON Scotland has formally notified college principals of its intention to ballot for industrial action on pay, after 92% of staff rejected the employers' final pay offer in a consultation. The official ballot will open on Wednesday 27 April. It will be the first national strike vote in further education for 6 years. The employers' final offer is £850 per year consolidated, with a £150 unconsolidated one-off payment. With inflation reaching thirty-year high this offer would constitute a significant real-terms pay cut. If UNISON members vote yes to strike action, and employers do not offer a fair pay rise, all grades of staff in Scotland's colleges will take industrial action across Scotland's colleges before the end of this term. Further details [here](#).

### Local government workers on path to industrial action

UNISON members working in local government have indicated their willingness to take some form of industrial action, up to and including strike action, in a dispute with COSLA over pay. 89.8% of UNISON members voted that they would be prepared to take industrial action in a consultative ballot announced today. The ballot comes after COSLA's only pay offer was rejected outright by all three local government trade unions in March.

Whilst a formal, statutory, ballot would need to take place before any action could happen the union state that the result of this consultative ballot demonstrates the strength of feeling on the issue and is calling on council leaders to improve their offer to avert industrial unrest. More details [here](#).



### It's time for the Scottish Government to Put NHS Pay Right in 2022

NHS staff are facing the largest cost of living crisis for a generation. Experts predict that overall costs to households will go up by at least £1,200 in 2022. We think a pay rise is only a real rise if it goes up by more than living costs – a pay rise below inflation is a pay cut. **[What we're doing about it.](#)**

General secretary's blog: UK government can – and must – act on cost of living

Keep up with UNISON at The STUC Congress [here](#)

## UNISON's response to the proposed reform of the private rented sector.

## Young Members Mental Health Survey - The survey asks about mental health, the cost of living, and involvement in UNISON.



UNISON attends the trial of trade unionists in Turkey. UNISON stands in solidarity with eight trade unionists in Turkey charged with terrorism offences for carrying out their union duties. Watch our report.

## JOHN STEVENSON RIP

### PICK OF THE MEDIA

25/04/22 [morninigstaronline.co.uk](http://morninigstaronline.co.uk)

**We have to hold Holyrood to account** - column by UNISON Scottish Secretary Tracey Dalling

23/04/22 [shetlandtimes.co.uk](http://shetlandtimes.co.uk)

**89.8% of local government workers have signalled their intention to take industrial action in a row over pay.**

22/04/22 [socialistworker.co.uk](http://socialistworker.co.uk)

**Get behind the Dundee university workers' strikes.**

"People are very angry and they're doing this so they can hold our heads up high," UNISON rep Emma Preston.

21/04/22 [unison.org.uk](http://unison.org.uk)

**UNISON welcomes asbestos report on public buildings.**

21/04/22 [scottishleftreview.scot](http://scottishleftreview.scot)

**Watch** STUC general secretary Roz Foyer speak about the challenges facing union movement in Scotland as STUC meets for its 1st physical congress in two years in Aberdeen.

21/04/22 [tuc.org.uk](http://tuc.org.uk)

**Making flexible working the default.**

20/04/22 [heraldscotland.com](http://heraldscotland.com)

**School meals should be free for all pupils,** says STUC.

18/04/22 [dailyrecord.co.uk](http://dailyrecord.co.uk)

**Dundee University strike starts as UNISON members take to the picket lines.**

there  
for you

## Energy Support Appeal

Helping low income and vulnerable members with rising energy costs

### There for You launches the Energy Support Appeal

There for You is launching their **Energy Support Fund** to help members through the cost-of-living crisis. In order to support as many members as possible over this year, they are asking for donations from branches.



Welcome to UNISON Scotland learning!

Here is our online education programme for January to April 2022. As part of its extensive learning and training programme, UNISON offers new members a choice of free one day workshops to help you at work and in everyday life. Build your skills with our national programme UNISON Learning.

## 7 reasons to join UNISON



UNISON - ALWAYS WITH YOU - JOIN NOW

**Update your UNISON details**



**0800 0 857 857**

To take part in our consultations,  
surveys and ballots, we need accurate  
information: **your work, email & mobile.**

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