



Issue 339 30th May - 19th June 2022

UNISON ballots 25,000 school staff and waste and recycling workers for strike over pay after Kate Forbes refuses offer of last-ditch talks



UNISON started an industrial action ballot on Friday 10 June for 25,000 local government workers in schools, early years, waste and recycling across Scotland. The ballot will take 7 weeks and will close on 26 July. UNISON are recommending the workforce vote yes to strike action as the only way left to move the employer's position. They intend to shut schools across Scotland when children return after the school summer break. In a last-ditch attempt to avert industrial action processes UNISON wrote to the First Minister, Nicola Sturgeon, and Minister of Finance Kate Forbes, on 1 June to ask that they meet with the trade unions to discuss the funding for local authorities to improve the pay offer. Kate Forbes has written to UNISON today and said 'it would not be appropriate to interfere in these negotiations, given their devolved nature' and that 'it is therefore for you to negotiate with COSLA and 'respectfully declined the tripartite meeting being proposed by COSLA'. Read [more](#).



PUT NHS PAY RIGHT

UNISON
the public service union

PICK OF THE MEDIA

10/06/22 bbc.co.uk

Council workers to vote on strike to shut Scotland's schools.

09/06/22 clydebankpost.co.uk

"Public services have already been cut to the bone" and are struggling to cope with the increased demands placed upon them. Tracey Dalling, UNISON, Scottish Secretary

05/06/22 dailyrecord.co.uk

Tracey Dalling, UNISON, Scottish Secretary insists an IndyRef2 was "not a priority" given other issues facing other country.

30/05/22 leftfootforward.org

HMRC admits it's clueless on tax avoidance.

26/05/22 tuc.org.uk

Government "still doesn't have a plan" for giving families long-term financial security

25/05/22 scottishlegal.com

"We need a new Freedom of Information Act with the same boldness of the original committed to the principle that public funding and transparency must go together." UNISON Scotland's Stephen Low.

25/05/22 itspublicknowledge.info

Commissioner finds more work required to bring sustained improvement in Scottish Government FOI performance.

25/05/22 twitter.com

STUC's Rozanne Foyer **telling it like it is** to the Wales TUC.

20/05/22 ethicalconsumer.org

Up to half a billion pounds could have been lost to the UK public purse from the corporation tax avoidance of Amazon alone.

09/06/22 cnduk.org

Bruce Kent

Upper Clyde Shipbuilders (UCS) work-in: reflections on language and
leaders 16th June

there
for you

supporting UNISON members
when life gets tough

Get help with school clothing costs this summer

Worried about back-to-school costs? Help is on hand From 24 June 2022, we are setting up a limited fund to help UNISON members on a low income with school clothing costs by way of a one -off payment of up to £70 per child. More info [here](#).



UNISON Scotland Activist Education

UNISON has a proud history of providing high quality learning opportunities for our members. We work with trusted national institutions like The Open University and the Workers' Educational Association (WEA) and a host of local providers, and we also deliver informal learning in-house.

Our online education programme for May to December 2022 is [here](#).

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.**
