

MEMBERS' BULLETIN

General Election Campaign

With the unexpected announcement of the General Election, NASUWT Scotland has been reminding members how to register to vote, the need for Voter ID and, crucially, given the choice of date of Thursday 4 July for the election, how to apply for a postal vote.

Voter Registration

You can register online [here](#) and must do so by the end of **Tuesday 18 June**.

Voter ID

You now need to produce photographic identification at the polling booth to vote in a UK General Election. UK driving licences and passports are acceptable forms of ID but the full list can be found [here](#).

Postal Voting

You can apply online to vote by post at a UK General Election [here](#) and must do so by **5pm on Wednesday 19 June**.

New Deal for Teachers

In the run-up to the General Election, NASUWT has been championing a New Deal for Teachers, demanding proper funding for education and the wider public sector, and an end to anti-trade union laws.

Our Scotland-specific requests can be found on the New Deal landing page [here](#), under the sidebar entitled New Deal for Teachers Resources. On the same page, under the sidebar entitled Political Briefings (Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales), you will find an explainer about funding and the Barnett Formula.

Members are encouraged to use these documents to ask appropriate questions of any canvassers or candidates.

NASUWT Better Deal for Teachers Campaign

Outwith the General Election, our longstanding Better Deal for Teachers campaign in Scotland continues:

Behaviour

Substantial work took place to reach agreement on the final wording for the Scottish Government's National Action Plan on Relationships & Behaviour. It was hoped that the Action Plan would have been published by now, and NASUWT will continue to push for its swift publication. The Action Plan, while not perfect,

will be largely welcomed by NASUWT as it recognises the limitations of restorative approaches and explicitly acknowledges the need for serious consequences for serious misbehaviour, up to and including exclusion.

In the meantime, members are reminded that the General Secretary and National Executive Members in Scotland have agreed that NASUWT will focus on schools where there may be potential for a formal dispute on behaviour and will support members in gathering the necessary evidence for this. If your school has significant behavioural issues and you think we should be visiting you, please let us know by emailing scotland@mail.nasuwt.org.uk

Pay

The Scottish Negotiating Committee for Teachers (SNCT) lodged a 6.5% Pay Claim many months ago.

An offer was finally made by the employers' body, COSLA, on Tuesday 4 June and considered at a special meeting of the SNCT Teachers' Panel meeting the day after. Despite a wider public sector pay policy of a three-year offer with a reopener clause, the teacher offer was for a single year, with no reopener, amounting to a 2% increase on 1 August 2024, followed by a 1% increase on 1 May 2025. The offer was rejected by NASUWT and all other members of the SNCT Teachers' Panel. Further negotiations on pay are still expected to take place this month.

Workload

The SNCT Teachers' Side continues to express their frustration at the failure to make any progress on the promised reduction in pupil/class contact time.

In the ongoing absence of progress at SNCT, NASUWT has met the Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills and sought her support in pushing employers to reduce teacher workload in other ways, particularly by: tackling excessive forward planning in primaries, over-assessment in secondaries, bureaucratic tracking and monitoring procedures, and unwieldy/overambitious School Improvement Plans. All NASUWT Local Secretaries have been furnished with a set of slides outlining these issues and encouraging them to engage with employers and members.

Education Policy

NASUWT has repeatedly raised with Education Scotland, most recently on 13 May, the issue of lack of classroom teacher involvement in aspects of their work, especially that relating to curriculum review. Education Scotland has agreed to attend the NASUWT Scotland Executive Council in September to make a presentation and take questions. Further information on curricular review and reform will be shared with members in the new term.

On 5 June, the Scottish Government tabled a Bill to establish a new qualifications agency, Qualifications Scotland, and an independent inspectorate. At the same time, a revised education agency was announced, though this will still be called Education Scotland. NASUWT's position remains that we need to see genuine change created as a result of these reforms: this cannot merely be a rebranding exercise where the same cultures and practices continue to exist under a different name and logo.

NASUWT has attended all meetings of the Centre for Teaching Excellence Co-Production Group and clearly advocated for teacher involvement in and direction of the Centre, as well as clearer delineation of roles between the Centre and Education Scotland. However, the actual purpose of the Centre remains opaque at this stage.

STUC

NASUWT hosted a full delegation at the STUC LGBT+ Conference in May and successfully proposed motions on Hate Speech and on Vexatious Freedom of Information Requests. Please note the following STUC Conferences in the autumn term. If you would like to attend, please email scotland@mail.nasuwt.org.uk

STUC Black Workers' Conference 28 & 29 September 2024

STUC Women's Conference 23 & 24 October 2024

STUC Disabled Workers' Conference 23 & 24 November 2024

Training

Our NASUWT training programme for the coming year has been agreed, with a variety of courses and seminars, some open to all members, with others aimed at particular activists. The basic details are as follows but please contact scotland@mail.nasuwt.org.uk if you would like to find out more or wish to register for any of these:

Behaviour Management 14 January 2025 (1-day, face-to-face)

Discrimination Casework 16 January 2025 (1 day, face-to-face)

Equalities Conference 28 September 2024 (1 day, face-to-face)

Health & Safety (Stage 1) 10 December 2024 & 19 February 2025 (2 days, face-to-face)

Health & Safety (Stage 2) 1 & 2 October 2024 (2 days, face-to-face)

Local Secretaries (Stage 1) 15 November 2024 (1 day, face-to-face)

Local Secretaries (Stage 2) 25 February 2025 (1 day, face-to-face)

Managing Stress in the Workplace 12 March 2025 (1 day, face-to-face)

Menopause Awareness 17 September 2024 (1 hour, online 5-6pm)

NASUWT Representatives: Casework 24 & 25 September 2024 (2 days, face-to-face)

NASUWT Workplace Representatives 4 & 5 November 2024 (2 days, face-to-face)

Probationer/NQT Seminar 25 January 2025 (1 day, face-to-face)

Supply Teachers' Seminar 7 December 2024 (1 day, face-to-face)

Tutoring and Accrediting NASUWT courses 29 October 2024 (1 day, face-to-face)

Women's Conference Skills 8 March 2025 (1 day, face-to-face)

Working Assertively 4 September 2024 (1 day, face-to-face)

All that remains is to wish you a well-earned and restful summer holiday!