

# Teaching unions to escalate strike action one year on

**Marking a year since the teaching unions made a pay claim for 2022-23 through the Scottish Negotiating Committee for Teachers (SNCT), the EIS has announced that strike action will now be escalated.**

The EIS will deliver birthday cards to the government and COSLA today to mark the first anniversary and warn that further strikes on a targeted basis are likely if no new pay offer is forthcoming.

EIS General Secretary Andrea Bradley said, "It is deeply regrettable that the continuing inaction, obfuscation and spin from the Scottish Government and COSLA on teachers' pay has led to an escalation of our programme of strike action.

"It has now been a year since our pay claim was submitted, and teachers should have had their pay rise in their pay packet last April. Instead, the Scottish Government and COSLA initially offered a pathetic 2% pay settlement – at a time when inflation was nearly four times that amount.

"Since then, the Scottish Government and COSLA have dithered, delayed and dragged their feet while the cost of living has continued to soar."

Ms Bradley added, "The latest offer, for a well-below inflation 5%, has now been kicking around for six months and has been rejected by Scotland's teachers twice. Our members

have already taken part in three days of national strike action, and a further 16-days of rolling action across the country.

“The response from the Scottish Government and COSLA has been, essentially, nil – and this now has forced an escalation in our action. The offer of a 9% real-terms pay cut, which is what is on the table, will never be acceptable.”

The escalation of action means that, in addition to 2 days of national strike action already called for 28th February and 1st March, and a 20 further days of rolling strikes across all local authority areas from 13th March until 21st April, there will be targeted action in the constituencies of the First Minister, Deputy First Minister, Cabinet Secretary for Education, and COSLA Resources Spokesperson, Councillor Katie Hagmann.

Scottish Greens Education Spokesperson Ross Greer’s East Dunbartonshire constituency area will also be targeted.