



2nd December 2022

A joint message to all teachers and school leaders from the general secretaries of NAHT, NASUWT, NEU and the TUC

Dear Colleague,

Teachers and School Leaders Demand Better

Each of our unions is balloting members for industrial action on pay and the TUC is fully supporting these ballots. We are united on the need to protect your pay against current inflation and to restore its real terms value, and for those pay rises to be fully funded by Government.

Since 2010, a series of government pay freezes, 'caps' and 'affordability' criteria have cut your pay by more than 20%.

At every salary point across the main, upper and leadership pay ranges the cumulative losses over this twelve-year period run into many tens of thousands of pounds.

These losses also affect the future value of your pension. Lower salaries mean lower contributions, which produce lower pensions at retirement.

In September, with CPI inflation spiralling to 10.1%, and RPI at 12.3%, food prices soaring and energy costs rocketing, teachers and school leaders are facing yet another real terms cut to their pay.

Our unions are continuing to press governments and employers for an improved pay award, highlighting the damage that falling real pay risks to children's and young people's education.

Today's disastrous teacher recruitment figures put all of this in very sharp focus for Government.

At this is critical moment, now is the time to stand together and send a clear and unequivocal message that the teaching profession demands better.

Please complete your union's ballot paper and get your ballot paper in the post box today to strengthen our demand for a better deal for teachers and school leaders.

Thank you.

Paul Whiteman
General Secretary NAHT

Dr Patrick Roach
General Secretary NASUWT

Mary Boustead
Joint General Secretary NEU

Kevin Courtney
Joint General Secretary NEU

Frances O'Grady
General Secretary TUC