

Friday 4 March 2016

Colleges Scotland Disappointed at Vote in Favour of Industrial Action

Shona Struthers, Chief Executive, Colleges Scotland said:

“We acknowledge the outcome of today’s ballot, where around half of the EIS membership has voted to strike. Staff at all levels in colleges were offered a 1% pay rise, which is in line with other public sector agreements, and this was accepted by three of the four trade unions in Scotland’s colleges. It is the best possible offer in the current difficult funding situation, because there are simply no additional resources available to finance a deal beyond that which has already been offered – and accepted by the other three unions.

“We are working with all stakeholders to resolve this issue as soon as possible to ensure that students face minimal disruption during the EIS action. Meaningful discussion took place yesterday through the National Joint Negotiating Committee and we have agreed to meet again on Thursday 24 March 2016.

“And we will continue working with all of the trade unions to progress harmonisation of pay and conditions across the college sector in Scotland, and to develop our colleges so that they are equipped and staffed for the challenges of future – meeting the needs of students and the economy for years to come.”

ENDS

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