

## **Renfrewshire Joint Negotiating Committee for Teachers**

**To: Renfrewshire Joint Negotiating Committee for Teachers**

**On: 6<sup>th</sup> Feb 2024**

**Report by  
Joint Secretary (Teachers' Side)**

### **In-service Days and Time for Trade Union meetings.**

#### **Background**

There was communication prior to the October 2023 in-service day between management and the EIS about the agendas for that day which necessitated staff relocating to other establishments for training in the afternoons. As well as travelling expenses, the issue of time for trade union meetings was raised because many schools would normally allocate time to unions meetings in the afternoon slot. Many schools however, as a result of the training event, did not incorporate trade union meetings into their agenda for the day.

The Teachers' side noted at the time that teachers' have an entitlement to trade union time to be allocated during in-service days as agreed in JNC 11 (Revised) Par 3 :

3. TRADE UNION MEETINGS : Two hours will be set aside for trade union meetings. Agreement on the duration and timing of individual meetings should be reached between head teachers and union representatives at school level at some time in the course of the five in-service days.

As a result of the October training which took place in the afternoon it was requested that Head teachers be reminded to incorporate trade unions meetings into the morning block but the trade unions are disappointed that not all schools received this communication and so some teachers have not received their entitlement to time for Trade union meetings.

#### **Action**

The trade unions would reiterate the need for time for union meetings in schools during in-service days and expect that headteachers in all sectors will be reminded of that entitlement.

And, where time has not previously been given due to other Council business, that this time will be rolled over and added to the subsequent in-service days in February '24 or May '24 to fulfil the agreed allocation of two hours per session and thereby allow teachers time to meaningfully engage with their respective trade unions.