



## UTU UPDATE – 20<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2016

Dear Colleague

### FINAL REMINDER

I know it is a very busy time of year for you, but I would be grateful if you took just a few moments to complete and return your ballot paper to Anne Hock, Popularis (the Independent Scrutineer) in the pre-paid envelope provided. **IT IS VITAL THAT WE GET A HIGH RETURN!**

We should have the result on Friday afternoon and we will inform the Employers what our action will be. It is intended that action will commence just as the schools return back after the Christmas break. Full instructions will be supplied to you in time for the start of the new term.

### EDUCATION BUDGET

We have just been informed that the Education Budget due to be published before Christmas has been delayed until after Christmas. Unfortunately this means that schools will not receive details of their budgets until later than expected. We will continue to push for schools to be notified as soon as possible.

### INVESTING IN THE TEACHING WORKFORCE SCHEME

All teachers who applied for this pilot scheme should have received a letter informing them whether or not they have been successful in being recommended for early release without actuarial reduction. If anyone has not heard from their school/employer then please contact Headquarters immediately.

## **DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE**

A revised Disciplinary Procedure was agreed at the Joint Working Party last month and we were informed at today's JWP meeting that it became operational from 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2016. Copies should be available on the Department of Education website at [www.education-ni.gov.uk](http://www.education-ni.gov.uk)

## **FINALLY**

May I take this opportunity to thank you for your continuing membership of UTU and contributing to our democratic decision-making process. There are many important decisions to be made by Government in the weeks ahead, not least of them Area Planning!

Happy Christmas

**Avril Hall-Callaghan**