



## UPDATE – APRIL 2018

Our ref:139/604

17<sup>th</sup> April 2018

Dear Colleague,

### **PAY TALKS**

As we previously informed you, negotiations are now taking place between NITC and the Management Side about a resolution to the current situation which has not yet resulted in a pay claim being settled for 2017-18. There is another day of Pay Talks scheduled for 17<sup>th</sup> April 2018 in UTU Headquarters and we will let you know the outcome as soon as possible. Please be assured that we will not be suspending our Industrial Action until we have a satisfactory resolution and we will put any offer made out to a ballot of members before responding to it.

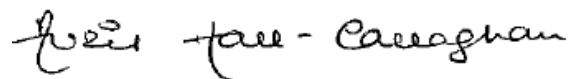
### **INVESTING IN THE TEACHING WORKFORCE**

The Department of Education has just launched the detail of this scheme which is to run again this school year. It was issued as a pilot scheme last year but ran into difficulties due to a legal challenge which is established it was objectively justified. I know some of our members thought that it should not have been something the UTU supported but it is set to provide a further 200 opportunities for teaching jobs this school year to add to the 29 teachers released early in 2017. **PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE IS A STRICT CLOSING DATE FOR TEACHERS WHO WISH TO APPLY FOR THE SCHEME – THE CLOSING DATE IS 23<sup>RD</sup> APRIL 2018 AND ANY APPLICATIONS AFTER THIS DATE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.** Full details of the Scheme can be found on the DENI website along with a series of Frequently Asked Questions. If members have any questions which aren't covered please feel free to contact UTU for additional information.

## EU AUDIT

Before Easter Schools were asked once again to complete an audit. We are opposed to this on two grounds – (1) it represents yet another imposition on teachers' (mainly Principals') workload and (2) it is work that the EA is required to carry out as it is an administrative task! We are suggesting that schools should not carry out the audit. We would ask you to sustain the union's Industrial Action as we are trying to keep pressure on Management Side to resolve our current salary crisis but most importantly to deal with the workload and accountability issues within the profession.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Avril-Hall Callaghan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Avril-Hall Callaghan  
**General Secretary**