

Dear Members,

Talks continued in Stirling on the 25th of April with the employers. The nature of the talks was, again, constructive but UNISON remains concerned about the ability of the employers' side to move swiftly within their usual structures and processes to resolve this dispute at pace, and we made this known. Even at this late stage we are concerned, as usual, about the desire from some on the employers' side to act as quickly and as decisively as we requested to resolve this dispute. Nevertheless, work has begun on a draft of a potential revised offer. Job security remains the key consideration and we aim to secure a deal with the strongest protections possible on job security.

We remain committed to ongoing talks but will also now leverage the threat of imminent strike action starting on the 13th of May, potentially bringing disruption across multiple colleges running National 5 Maths exams that day, as well as those who are not. We hope a deal is closed before this is necessary but failing that, we need to ensure that this day of action comes with the strongest display yet of UNISON strength in numbers on picket lines. Please do not leave it to your colleagues - for the fight to be won, we all need to stand up and be counted together (particularly as UNISON will be out on day one alone) so please contact your local steward and let them know they can count on you on the day! Join with your local steward and members locally to bring some noise, colour, strength, and solidarity to your local line. We ask for evidence of scenes of striking solidarity from all over Scotland so get ready to send us your pics!

Beyond the first strike day on the 13th May, we will also aim to take two days of strike action the following week alongside EIS colleagues and further details will be shared as we progress.

Talks continued yesterday in Stirling with the employers.

We will leave you with a reminder as to why this fight over job security has been raging for so long with these eleventh-hour plans to close libraries, nurseries, and other services in Perth College:

[Fresh plans to close UHI Perth nursery and cut jobs \(thecourier.co.uk\)](https://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/scotland/university-higher-education/university-higher-education-perth-nursery-closed-2024-04-29)

In solidarity,

UNISON Scotland Further Education Branch



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