

Approved minute of the meeting of the National Joint Negotiating Committee –Side Table Support Staff held on Thursday 27 August 2015 at 1600 hrs in Glasgow City College.

In Attendance

Keith McKellar	Management Side (Chair)
Audrey Cumberland	“ “
Susan Bald	“ “
Judy Keir	“ “
Chris Greenshields	Staff Side (Chair)
Shirley Sephton	“ “
John Gallacher	Staff Side Secretary
John Gribben	Management Side Secretary

17 / 15 Apologies

Apologies were received from Liz McIntyre

18 / 15 Minutes of Previous Meeting.

The minutes of 18 June and 30 July were approved

19 / 15 Matters Arising

No matters (to note - the last number sequence of 30 July 2015 minute should be 16/15).

20/15 Response to Pay Offer

Staff Side advised that they had the benefit of a UNISON Further Education executive committee, and advised that:

- The offer provided had been rejected.
- There was a great deal of concern at the offer made by the Management Side, against the backdrop of an excellent and reasonable pay claim.
- There was a degree of anger at the offer, with many members requesting that something more is done industrially to show support for the claim.

The Staff Side negotiators considered that that had attempted to protect the mechanism of the NJNC by not engaging in a negative media campaign. However in the event that the NJNC is unable to move quickly to resolve and settle the pay claim, the negotiators would be compelled to follow the wishes of their membership.

The staff side restated their pay claim, and sought to progress this positively and constructively with the Management Side. The evidence base for the rejection of the offer was set out by the staff Side.

The Staff Side recognise that their claim is aspirational, in recognising that it cannot be fulfilled overnight, the desire to work positively with the Management Side to deliver positive outcomes for the sector was restated.

The staff side encouraged the Management Side to commitment to addressing the inequality and discrepancies that exist within the sector, and provided examples of how this could be achieved.

The Staff side requested real and meaningful timescales to be set in order to deliver the required progress that a return to National Bargaining in the College Sector means for their membership. The Staff side set out that they considered their claim and negotiation parameters to be more than reasonable and importantly evidence based. To that end they sought an improved offer from the Management Side at the next Side Table Support Staff.

Management Side advised that the points raised would be considered and responded to through an offer at the NJNC in September.

Date of Next Meeting - 24 September 2015