

Monday 13 September 2004

NASUWT CALLS FOR A CHANGE IN THE LAW TO BAN RACISTS AND FASCIST FROM MEMBERSHIP

Commenting on the TUC motion on Trade Union Democracy, **Chris Keates**, Acting General Secretary of NASUWT, the largest union representing teachers throughout the UK, said:

“It is a gross injustice that trade unions are not allowed to be self-governing.

“A local golf club has more powers to determine its membership and impose sanctions against those who break club rules.

“The repeal of the legislation introduced by the last Tory government is long overdue. NASUWT is fully committed to the TUC campaign on this issue.”

Peter McLoughlin, NASUWT Senior Vice-President, speaking in support of the motion, said:

“A basic right in a free and democratic society is the right to organise. Part of that right must be the right to draw up rules and a constitution.

“But legislation has been used cynically by racist and fascist organisations to undermine trade union equal opportunities policies and secure financial compensation to fund their vile activities.

“No other organisation is hidebound in this way – not employer organisations or political parties.”