

## **IMMEDIATE**

Wednesday 15 September 2004

### **NASUWT CONDEMNS RACISM AND 'REDWATCH'**

Commenting on the TUC motion on Racism and the 'Redwatch' site, **Chris Keates**, Acting General Secretary of NASUWT, the largest union representing teachers throughout the UK, said:

"The vile and reprehensible nature of racist policies is epitomised by the 'Redwatch' website. It is an attack on individuals, an attack on free speech and a naked promotion of racism, fascism and intimidation.

"The time has now come for the law to be changed to enable trade unions to remove from membership such people."

**Sue Rogers**, NASUWT National Treasurer, speaking in support of the motion, said:

"The BNP stand outside school gates leafleting, they stand for local, national and European elections and they stand for governing bodies. They seek to control our schools, our society and our future. We know in reality they stand for racism, fascism, violence and intimidation.

"No-one can ignore the fact that more than 20 BNP candidates in the recent local government and European elections were teachers, one of which identified himself as an NASUWT member.

"Now we have to explore both our rules and the legal implications of dealing with him. We await eagerly the removal of the Tory legislation which prevents unions controlling their own membership rules."

**ENDS**

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**National Association of Schoolmasters Union of Women Teachers**