

Immediate Release

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NUT condemns “prizes for votes” scheme in Sefton, Liverpool

Doug McAvoy, General Secretary of the National Union of Teachers, today condemned a scheme offering prizes to pupils and their schools if they can show that their parents have voted in Thursday’s local and European elections.

He urged headteachers not to distribute to their pupils letters giving details of the scheme. The letters were sent by Sefton Council to schools in the area during the half-term. Some schools handed the letters out to pupils on Monday. The letters are signed by the Returning Officer for the area.

Mr McAvoy said: “I am appalled at this scheme. If it is Government funded I question with whom it has been discussed and what view the Electoral Commission takes of it.

“Whilst participation in elections is to be encouraged, this should not be done through bribes to children.”

E N D S

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