

NUT pensions strike ballot halted

The National Union of Teachers, representing half of all school teachers in England and Wales, has today halted its ballot for a proposed one day strike in April.

The ballot was over Government insistence that the pension age for teachers would be raised from 60 to 65, forcing teachers to work a further five years if they were to qualify for a full pension.

The decision to halt the ballot was taken following the Government's announcement that it was willing to put all the issues concerning public sector pensions up for negotiation. It had earlier insisted that retaining the current pension age was not an option.

Steve Sinnott, NUT General Secretary, said:

“The NUT prefers to work through negotiation to rid teachers of this damaging scheme which has caused such anxiety amongst public sector workers, including teachers, over their pensions.

“This offer of talks on all the issues must not be just a ploy to avert industrial action in the run up to a general election.

“My aim is to ensure teachers' pension rights are protected and that is what I will be arguing for in the negotiations.”

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PR.25/05

For further information contact: Olive Forsythe tel: 020 7380 4706 (office) 020 8313 1692 (weekday evenings) or if all else fails 07879 480061.