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news **BALLOT SPECIAL**

TEACHERS' UNION OF IRELAND / AONTAS MÚINTEOIRÍ ÉIREANN

Ballot on Youthreach Operator Guidelines

Dear Colleague,

In 2010, the TUI received a request from the Department of Education and Skills (DES) for submissions on the Draft Youthreach Operator Guidelines and, following a consultation with members in Youthreach, forwarded our submission. The DES fell silent on the issue for the following five years. In April 2015 Guidelines that purported to be final and for implementation were issued to Education and Training Boards. The published Guidelines show no evidence of consideration by the DES of the Union's 2010 submission, or indeed of any other submissions that may have been received by the Department in 2010. It is unacceptable that the Union's concerns were simply ignored.

The TUI has demanded meaningful consultation and constructive negotiation, processes which were absent in advance of the publication of the Guidelines. The TUI is also demanding that the DES immediately provide the TUI with a clear opportunity both to discuss the

document in a meaningful manner and to negotiate appropriate amendments for the benefit of our members.

Further to a commitment made at Annual Congress 2015, the TUI convened a national consultative conference for our members working in Youthreach centres on 26th September 2015. The conference was well attended and the input from members will inform our negotiations with the DES.

In the interim, and in order to protect our members from any negative impact that the unilateral imposition of the un-agreed Operator Guidelines may have on our members, the TUI has

decided to ballot our members in Youthreach Centres to enable the Executive Committee to issue appropriate directives to suppress any additional or inappropriate work, as well as inappropriate structures.

Colleagues, the Executive Committee urges you to vote 'YES' in this ballot so that we may ensure that you are protected in your employment and that sufficient and appropriate consultation takes place in advance of any change in your work practices.

Yours sincerely,

Gerry Quinn,
President

John MacGabhann
General Secretary



Vote 'YES' to protect your terms and conditions