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The Further Education Committee met on June 27 to consider the Association of Colleges final offer in this year's pay talks.

The offer:

- Deletion of the bottom scale point 4
- 2% increase in scale point 5 to bring it up to living wage
- 1% increase on points above point 5

FEC determined to consult all FE England members on the offer with a recommendation to reject the offer. FEC Officers will meet next week to decide on a timeline for the consultation which will begin in early September.

Branches will be provided with a briefing note including an explanation of the consequences of rejecting the offer and the consequences of accepting the offer and should plan to call branch meetings within the first few weeks of September to discuss the offer, FEC recommendation and briefing note.

Statement from FEC Regarding Lambeth Dispute

The Further Education Committee recorded full support for members at Lambeth and:

1. Endorsed the following statement made by the national executive committee:

"The national executive sends solidarity greetings to UCU members at Lambeth. In their fourth week of strike action they are showing courage and steadfastness in the face of significant pressure from their employer.

The officers have previously agreed that our members there should not be starved back to work. We reiterate that message. UCU will support its members there so that a resolution can be found.

To that end we call on all branches to undertake fundraising activities to help our Lambeth members.

The executive further instructs the general secretary to plan for a national levy, as allowed by rule, should the executive choose that method in the future.

The executive asks the further education committee to explore all avenues of support to place further industrial and academic pressure on Lambeth College."

3. Resolved that the National Head of Bargaining and Negotiations develop an industrial strategy that will seek assurances from other London College management concerning approaches to job security and organisational change. This strategy will highlight that the approach taken at Lambeth is not acceptable.

4. The Officers will also consider how academic pressure can be used in situations like Lambeth.