

NORTHERN IRELAND TEACHERS' COUNCIL

C/O Ben Madigan House
Belfast
BT96 0NW
02890 784480

23 March 2020

Mr Derek Baker
Permanent Secretary
Rathgael House
Balloo Road
Rathgill
Bangor
BT19 7PR

Dear Derek

We wrote to you on the 19 March on behalf of the Northern Ireland Teachers' Council (NITC) seeking urgent intervention on behalf of the substitute teaching workforce who no longer have access to secure work.

We had asked for a plan to be put in place for those substitute teachers providing day-to-day cover whose regular work has now ended.

On Friday the Chancellor of the Exchequer Rishi Sunak announced a grant scheme that will fund 80% of PAYE workers' salaries up to a total of £2,500 per month. The chancellor stated that "Any employer in the country, small or large, charitable or non-profit, will be eligible for the scheme".

It is now incumbent on the Department of Education and employing authorities to establish as soon as possible if substitute teachers whose work has stopped are eligible for this scheme. If they are eligible we urge you to make the application as soon as is possible. Please note that the employer can make up the extra 20% and the NITC would encourage the employers to do so.

Best wishes

Gerry Murphy Chair
Justin McCamphill Secretary
Jacqui White
Mark Langhammer
Geri Cameron

cc S Long Education Authority
G Campbell CCMS