

## **Nurses' union in Scotland backs industrial action**

 [U.K.](#)

Members of the RCN nursing union in [Scotland](#) have voted overwhelmingly to reject a 5% pay offer and a majority has given support to strike action. The union in England and Wales will launch a ballot next month with a similar recommendation from the leadership to reject the pay offer and support industrial action. This opens up the prospect of the first ever UK industrial action by the union. In [England and Wales](#) the union's main pay demand was for a rise of 5% above inflation (currently 11.8%), to combat years of wage stagnation and the cost-of-living crisis. The government has announced an increase of £1,400 (€1,655) which is around 4% for workers in the middle pay bands. Nursing staff in Northern Ireland are still awaiting a formal pay announcement. [Unite](#) is also balloting its 100,000 members in the health service in England and Wales and is recommending to reject the pay offer.

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[2022 August EPSU Collective Bargaining Newsletter No.17](#)

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