



for council and school workers

10 October 2017

Issue Number 03

## **NJC Pay – pile on the pressure!**

The NJC Employers Side is meeting on 18 October to take stock of their regional consultation. They have informed us that they want to wait for the Autumn Statement, due on 22 November before they respond to our claim and the pay spine review. We are not likely to get a formal pay offer from them until early December.

We had hoped that we would get the final pay offer earlier this year, which was why we lodged our claim in May. However, while the Local Government Association has done a lot of work to make finance officers and others aware that councils will need to budget for more than 1% this year, they want to see what the Autumn Statement says before an offer is made.

This means we have a real opportunity to put more pressure on councils and councillors before 18 October. If you haven't done so already, please can you ensure you have lobbied your key councillors and got the attached pay motion debated – and passed - in your council! Then tell your Region the outcome. We have asked all Regions to report back to us on branch lobbying activity before the next NJC Committee on 20 October.

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Share your campaign ideas with us at [njcpay2018@unison.co.uk](mailto:njcpay2018@unison.co.uk)

## **MOTION ON NJC PAY TO COUNCILS**

This council (name) notes that:

- NJC basic pay has fallen by 21% since 2010 in real terms
- NJC workers had a three-year pay freeze from 2010-2012
- Local terms and conditions of many NJC employees have also been cut, impacting on their overall earnings
- NJC pay is the lowest in the public sector
- Job evaluated pay structures are being squeezed and distorted by bottom-loaded NJC pay settlements needed to reflect the increased National Living Wage and the Foundation Living Wage
- There are growing equal and fair pay risks resulting from this situation

This council therefore supports the NJC pay claim for 2018, submitted by UNISON, GMB and Unite on behalf of council and school workers and calls for the immediate end of public sector pay restraint. NJC pay cannot be allowed to fall further behind other parts of the public sector. This council also welcomes the joint review of the NJC pay spine to remedy the turbulence caused by bottom-loaded pay settlements.

This council also notes the drastic ongoing cuts to local government funding and calls on the Government to provide additional funding to fund a decent pay rise for NJC employees and the pay spine review.

This council therefore resolves to:

- Call immediately on the LGA to make urgent representations to Government to fund the NJC claim and the pay spine review and notify us of their action in this regard
- Write to the Prime Minister and Chancellor supporting the NJC pay claim and seeking additional funding to fund a decent pay rise and the pay spine review
- Meet with local NJC union representatives to convey support for the pay claim and the pay spine review