

8th June 2020

Cllr Izzi Seccombe OBE
Leader, Conservative Group
Local Government Association
Local Government House
Smith Square
London, SW1P 3HZ

Dear Councillor,

During this year's NJC pay negotiations, both the National Employers and negotiating unions agreed that more money from central government would be needed in order to fund a fair pay increase for local government employees.

The National Employers recommended that representations should be made from the LGA to government on this matter. The trade unions supported this approach and were prepared to make a joint approach to central government alongside the LGA.

This additional funding was understood to be in addition to the tabled 2.75% pay increase offered by the employers. And significantly, the employers stressed that this extra funding was to be in recognition of employees' exceptional hard work during the national Covid-19 crisis.

The unions wrote to Cllr James Jamieson to agree the process for a joint approach to central government. On 19 May we received a reply from Cllr Jamieson, informing us that members of the LGA's Executive Advisory Board had decided by a majority not to take forward the National Employers' recommendation.

At a time when local government workers find themselves on the frontline of a national crisis, this is extremely disappointing. It also comes at a time when local government workers have seen 20% lost from the value of their pay (in real terms) since 2010.

We hope the LGA will re-consider this decision and that a joint approach to central government can still be made, as per the National Employers' recommendation. It would therefore be useful to know how your members on the LGA's Executive Advisory Board voted, so that we can understand where the opposition to this proposal has come from.

Your sincerely



Rehana Azam GMB



Jon Richards UNISON



Jim Kennedy UNITE

Trade Unions Side Secretaries