



UNISON
Scotland

Local
Government
Network

for people who care about local government

Issue 20 – December 2017

Fair funding for local government

As the Draft Scottish Budget approaches, we set out the case for fair funding for local government in our latest [briefing](#). And in our [evidence](#) to Parliament. The UK Budget hasn't helped, with more 'smoke and mirrors' on extra funding as we explain [here](#). It's important because the block grant still equates to half the Scottish budget. For the other half, the Scottish Government has to make some decisions on tax. We set out the options [here](#). The Accounts Commission [report](#) highlights the underfunding of councils and the budgetary challenges, as does the COSLA [briefing](#).



Pay up Now!



We took the case for fair pay to the streets of Edinburgh in October. We will be [returning](#) with the STUC to lobby parliament on 14 December. We will be calling for [fair pay](#) and proper funding for public services. Come along and join us!

In Brief.....

We have published a [guide](#) for Social Workers on supporting migrants in Scotland. We set out our concerns over the impact of Brexit on immigration to Scotland in our [submission](#) to the Scottish Affairs Committee.

Some councils are adopting poor [approaches](#) to Freedom of Information requests. There needs to be adequate staffing of this function and a supportive culture in departments.

Residential care homes should provide dignity and respect for all their residents. UNISON's Residential Care [Charter](#) can help raise standards.

Assaults on council staff have risen to 22,006 in the UNISON Scotland 2017 [survey](#) – an increase of 4,401 over the previous total 17,605. And this is only the recorded incidents – the tip of the iceberg.

We set out how investment in schools and early years provision can help close the attainment gap, in our [submission](#) to the ScotGov consultation.

For more information please contact UNISON's Bargaining and Campaigns team on 0141 342 2811, or email [Dave Watson](#), Scottish Organiser.

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