



To: Simon Cameron, COSLA SJC Joint Secretary

c.c: Cllr Gail MacGregor, COSLA Resources Spokesperson
All Scottish Council Leaders
Kate Forbes MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Finance
Shona Robison MSP, Cabinet secretary for Local Government
Wendy Dunsmore, Unite
Keir Greenaway, GMB

Date: 22nd April 2022

Dear Simon,

SJC Pay 2022

I write further to our previous correspondence of 1st April 2022 where we informed you that we would be consulting our members about their willingness to take industrial action to secure an improved pay offer that recognises, respects and rewards their incredible efforts.

That consultation closed today and the results are as follows:

89.8% voted YES to taking some form of action, up to and including strike action, in pursuit of an improved pay offer

10.2% voted NO to taking some form of action, up to and including strike action, in pursuit of an improved pay offer.

Whilst COSLA and the Scottish Government will blame each other over who is responsible for this situation it is our members that suffer – they have already endured a decade of austerity, a pandemic and now face a cost of living crises like no other.

We simply cannot go on like this – local government workers deserve better.

These results make clear that our members are no longer prepared to put up with being treated like the poor relations of the public sector.

Given the number and breadth of local government workers we represent we would urge you to take these results seriously. We understand that Leaders will meet again in the 29th April 2022 and could agree at that meeting to put forward an improved offer.

Our negotiators remain willing to make themselves available that day, or at any time prior to it, to help facilitate a speedy resolution to this issue.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes,

Johanna Baxter
UNISON Scotland Head of Local Government