



Gail MacGregor, Resources Spokesperson, COSLA
Simon Cameron, SJC Joint Secretary, COSLA

- Sent via e-mail –

29th April 2021

Dear Gail and Simon,

UNISON members reject pay offer

As you know UNISON has spent the past few weeks consulting our members about the current SJC 2021 pay offer put forward by COSLA.

Our ballot closed last night and the results are that 88% of members voted to reject the offer and 74% voted in favour of taking some form of industrial action, up to and including strike action, in pursuit of an improved offer.

This substantial rejection from our members sends a very clear message that the current offer is simply not good enough.

It does not put enough money in the pockets of our members, it does not do enough to recognise the immense contribution they have made to keeping local services running over the past year, or the impact that this has had on them, and it does little to address the significant issue of low pay in local government.

Our recent survey of UNISON members on their experiences during the last year underlined many of the arguments we have been making in these negotiations about the support, reward and recognition that should be provided to these essential workers.

Whilst we will continue to lobby the Scottish Government to put more money into Local Government we do also need COSLA to step up and prioritise their workforce in allocating to them the money that local authorities have available.

We trust this information will inform the discussions that COSLA Leaders will have tomorrow and that it will result in an improvement to the offer being made.

Yours sincerely,

Johanna Baxter
UNISON Scotland, Head of Local Government

c.c. COSLA Leaders