



CAMPAIGN FOR FAIR PAY FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT WORKERS

Unite is fighting for a fair deal for local government workers and needs your help to roll the campaign out at a local level. Local government workers and other public sector workers did not cause the economic crisis – they should not have to pay for it.

Let your local Councillor, the Chief Executive of your council and your local MP know that you support fair pay for local government workers and want their support for this.

On the next few pages there are template letters to your Councillor, the Chief Executive of your council and your local MP that you can use. Feel free to adapt them to your local circumstances and include local examples of how local government workers have delivered for their council and local community over the past year.

- **You can find the contact details of your local councillor through the 'Direct gov' website www.direct.gov.uk or click here <http://bit.ly/93Elbg>**
- **You can find the contact details of your local Council's Chief Executive on your local Council's webpage. If you aren't sure of the address you can find it via the 'Direct gov' website at www.direct.gov.uk or click here <http://tinyurl.com/4vn67e>**
- **You can find the contact details of your local MP on the www.parliament.uk website or click here <http://findyourmp.parliament.uk>**

(Remember that over Easter and in the run-up to the general election you will need to contact your MP at their constituency office address).

Don't just send the letters yourself – encourage everyone in your workplace and members of the public to send in letters. They can be printed off in bulk and people can fill in their own contact details at the top right hand corner and sign their name at the bottom.

For help with running stalls where people can sign the letters and other activities look in our 'Campaign Guide' available at www.unitetheunion.org/pppcampaign



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March 2010

Dear Councillor,

Local government workers have worked harder than ever during the recession and also a very difficult winter to provide vital community services such as gritting of roads and footpaths, housing advice and maintenance, social care, youth services, school catering, library facilities, refuse and recycling collections.

Despite this, the Local Government Association has decided to impose a pay freeze from April 2010 – a pay cut in real terms. Inflation has risen sharply to 3.7% and is predicted to remain high throughout the year. As inflation climbs many will be left struggling to cover essential living costs. Below inflation pay awards in recent years have already left many local government workers struggling to make ends meet. I am upset and disappointed that even though local government workers deliver services the local community could not cope without we are being rewarded with a fall in living standards.

The settlement for local government in England and Wales is above inflation and contains an element for pay. Where has this money gone?

Local government workers spend much of their pay in their local communities – not paying local government workers fair wages cuts off investment in the local economy. Fair pay in local government will help to recruit and retain dedicated staff who work hard to deliver local services in your constituency. Motivated staff are at the heart of quality local services – a pay freeze will damage morale.

Local government workers are also local people and local voters and are looking towards their elected local councillors to stand up for them and local services. **I urge you to support local government workers in their campaign for a fair pay award – not a pay freeze.**

Please write to the Chair of the LGA, Margaret Eaton, urging the Local Government Employers to award a pay increase to local government workers for this year.

Yours sincerely,

Dear

Your constituents who work for the local council have worked harder than ever during the recession and also a very difficult winter to provide vital community services such as gritting of roads and footpaths, housing advice and maintenance, social care, youth services, school catering, library facilities, refuse and recycling.

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Local government workers are also local people and local voters and are looking towards their elected Member of Parliament to stand up for them and local services. **I urge you to support local government workers in their campaign for a fair pay award – not a pay freeze.**

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Yours sincerely,

Dear Chief Executive,

Your employees have worked harder than ever during the recession and also a very difficult winter to provide vital community services such as gritting of roads and footpaths, housing advice and maintenance, social care, youth services, school catering, library facilities, refuse and recycling.

Despite this, the Local Government Association has decided to impose a pay freeze from April 2010 – a pay cut in real terms. Inflation has risen sharply to 3.7% and is predicted to remain high throughout the year. As inflation climbs many will be left struggling to cover essential living costs. Below inflation pay awards in recent years have already left many local government workers struggling to make ends meet. I am upset and disappointed that even though local government workers deliver services the local community could not cope without we are being rewarded with a fall in living standards. The settlement for local government in England and Wales is above inflation and contains an element for pay. Where has this money gone?

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Local government workers are also local people. **I urge you to support your local government workers in their campaign for a fair pay award – not a pay freeze.**

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