



To: Nicola Sturgeon, First Minister of Scotland
From: TU Joint Secretaries of the Scottish Joint Council for Local Government Employees
Date: 28th June 2019
Subject: Pay and Local Government Funding

Dear Ms Sturgeon,

We write following the pay settlements for both the SJC and SNCT workforces for the period 2018-2021.

We note the Scottish Government's contribution of an additional investment of almost £280 million for the Teaching workforce in this pay round, which had not been agreed with COSLA in advance of it being proposed by the Deputy First Minister.

We also note the Deputy First Ministers letter outlined a number of other proposals which will impact on the rest of the local government workforce and which were not discussed with us.

This is not the first time the Scottish Government have intervened to give the SNCT additional monies to fund a better pay settlement for Teachers than that which could be achieved by the rest of the Local Government workforce given the resources available to COSLA and we believe these actions seriously undermine the negotiating process in Local Government.

The situation where one bargaining group is given preferential treatment above all others is having a significant effect on morale amongst the rest of the Local Government workforce and can no longer continue. The principle of parity across local government is long held and the justifications for finding additional monies for Teachers apply equally to other areas of the local government workforce.

We therefore request a joint meeting with you and COSLA to discuss this and the wider issue of local government funding.

We look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Kind Regards,

Johanna Baxter
SJC Joint Secretary
UNISON

Drew Duffy
SJC Joint Secretary
GMB

Wendy Dunsmore
SJC Joint Secretary
UNITE