

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT

August 2016/01

### **NJC PAY SPINE REVIEW UPDATE**

## Review of the NJC 'Green Book' Pay Spine

As you will be aware, an Agreement was reached between the Trade Union Side and the Employers on a two-year pay deal for 2016-18 across Local Government.

All councils, schools and academies that follow the NJC should have now implemented the agreement.

In addition to the pay agreement, two joint reviews were agreed:

- 1) Review of term time working in schools, and
- 2) Review of the national joint council pay spine.

The National Joint Council (NJC) has now started to conduct a review of the NJC pay spine. The GMB is a member of the NJC.

The primary reason for the review of the pay spine is because of the introduction of the National Living Wage.

It is important to state from the outset that a restructured pay spine will not be possible without some additional cost for councils. However, both employer and trade union sides will endeavour to achieve an outcome that is financially viable for employers and fair to employees.

The agreed Terms of Reference for the Pay Spine Review are set out on page 2 of this newsletter.

### **Next Steps**

The Joint Secretaries, of which the GMB is a member, do not underestimate the challenge we face in designing a restructured pay spine that is capable of withstanding annual changes to the National Living Wage rate (without the need for regular fundamental reviews), whilst retaining its current flexibility for local employers to apply local pay and grading structures.

Regular meetings have been scheduled for the foreseeable future and the aim is to conclude the review of the NJC Pay Spine by 30 June 2017.

Both Sides will liaise with experts who have practical and technical experience in the design and use of pay and grading structures and who will advise the Joint Secretaries during the review process.

Throughout the course of the review, the Joint Secretaries will keep their respective constituents updated on developments. However, for obvious reasons, we will not be able to give a 'running commentary' on our discussions.

Before any final agreement is reached, the proposed restructured pay spine will be subject to full consultation with councils and union members. Your union will keep you updated.

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# ALL LOCAL GOVERNMENT STAFF CAN GET INVOLVED

Joining the GMB is easy, quick and fast. You, or your colleagues, can join via one of the following methods:

- 1. Online at <a href="https://www.gmb.org.uk/join">www.gmb.org.uk/join</a>
- 2. Complete the GMB application form and post to GMB Public Services Section, 22 Stephenson Way, London. NW1 2HD.
- 3. Ring 020 7391 6700 and ask how you can join.
- 4. Email <a href="mailto:info@gmb.org.uk">info@gmb.org.uk</a> asking for a membership form.
- Ask the GMB to visit your workplace and work colleagues: Email info@gmb.org.uk and arrangements can be made to have a face-to-face meeting.

Ensure your membership details are correct by registering with GMB online: <a href="https://www.gmb.org.uk/login">https://www.gmb.org.uk/login</a>

#### Why Join GMB?

GMB is Britain's fastest growing trade union. GMB is a campaigning trade union; its job is to get the best deal for GMB members at work and is committed to building a strong organisation in every GMB workplace and to help make every workplace safer. Whoever you are, wherever you work, joining GMB is the right decision.

#### **GMB Membership Subscriptions:**

Full time - £12.57 (£2.80 a week)

Part time - £7.37 (£1.70 a week)

## NJC PAY SPINE REVIEW TERMS OF REFERENCE

The NJC needs to meet the challenge of ensuring that a restructured pay spine is capable of withstanding annual changes to the National Living Wage rate, without the need for regular and fundamental reviews of pay structures. The spine is a valuable foundation on which individual councils build the detail of their local grading structures, which, in themselves, need adapting to new forms of service integration and devolution.

To take forward this review, the Joint Secretaries have set up a working group with the following aims:

To ensure the restructured NJC pay spine is capable of:

- Accommodating changes to the National Living Wage rate;
- Adapting to differentials in levels of pay and responsibility;
- Accommodating all local government services roles within scope of the NJC;
- Managing the assimilation of other roles, including health, craft, youth and Soulbury that are transferred to Green Book pay structures;
- Being used locally to recognise contribution and progression.

### To ensure the NJC pay spine remains:

- Compliant with the requirements of the Equality Act 2010:
- Consistent with single status principles.

#### To ensure review outcomes:

- Have firm timescales for completion;
- Take into account the potential impact on pay arrangements in London;
- Are financially viable for employers and fair to employees.

### Additional input:

To support the review, the Joint Secretaries will be advised by colleagues who have practical and technical expertise in the design and use of pay and grading structures.





### GMB-EXPERTS IN THE WORLD OF WORK

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then hand the form to your local GMB representative, or post it to:
Freepost RSTL-ULCH-JBET GMB, 22 Stephenson Way, LONDON NW1 2HD (you do not need a stamp).
If you have any questions contact GMB: email info@gmb.org.uk or visit our website www.gmb.org.uk

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1 TE	LL US <b>about you</b>	
Surname	First name	Title Mrs/Miss/Ms/Mr Date of birth
Home address	Postcode	Home phone number Mobile number
We ask for your ethnic origins as part of our equal opportunities policy of improving services to all members  Bangladeshi		
2 TELL US ABOUT YOUR JOB		
Employer	LL US ABOUT YOUR JUB	Your job  How many hours a Pour symbol
Address where you work	Postcode	week do you work?  Work phone number date
PLEASE SELECT WHEN YOU WOULD LIKE THE DIRECT DEBIT TO BE DEDUCTED FROM YOUR ACCOUNT		
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OR if you are paid 4 weekly	1st day of the month*	e month*  * or next working day
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