



NEWSLETTER 8

8 APRIL 2009

For local government branches in England, Wales and Northern Ireland only

(Scotland – for information)

NJC PAY OFFER 2009/10

We want negotiations!

The Trade Union Side of the NJC Executive met on 7 April to discuss our response to the offer. We all agreed we could not recommend the 0.5% offer to our members and have written to the LGE stating that position. We have requested an urgent meeting of the full NJC to start negotiations with the employers. Additionally, the NJC Executive Trade Union Side was incensed about the deadline of 1 June 2009, stating it was counter to good industrial relations and have made this point to the employers. A copy of the letter to the employers is attached.

What's in the budget?

We have asked you to let us know how much your councils put in their budgets for pay this year. Keep those responses coming in as we need this vital information for our pending negotiations with the employers. We have also followed this up with a Freedom of Information Act letter to authorities requesting information on their budgets and medium term financial strategy.

Joint working with GMB and Unite

All the NJC trade unions are on board for the strategy of negotiating to improve the offer. Make sure you jointly speak to your employers locally about this low offer, get them to tell you if they agree with the 0.5% offer and the LGE's position, feed it back to us on NJCpay2009@unison.co.uk

Talk to members and non members

We are producing a leaflet for members, a stewards' briefing and Powerpoints for branches to use. We need you to tell members about the offer and that we are pursuing negotiations with the employers. We want their views on what they think about it.

It's so easy for people to join us – do it on line now!