

MOTION TO EAST LoTHIAN COUNCIL
15 December 2020

Public Sector Pay Freeze

This Council condemns that the UK Government is proposing a public sector pay freeze for the vast majority of employees and a below inflation rise for even the lowest paid employees as a part of the Chancellor's Comprehensive Spending Review.

Council notes that the role of public service workers has been critical in responding to and helping both Scotland and East Lothian manage the impact of COVID-19 and considers that without the hard work of public servants, especially front line workers, such as cleaners and care assistants, we would not have been able to protect this county and support vulnerable people to the extent that we have through this crisis.

Council recognises that the economic impact of COVID-19 goes far beyond the public sector, but agrees the specific contribution of public sector employees should be recognised and appropriately rewarded.

Council also recognises the major impact in Barnett consequential of the UK Government's decision which will undermine the Scottish Government's ability to fund uplifts.

Council therefore requests the Council Leader write to the UK Government to make clear that public sector workers should be paid fairly and appropriately by fully funding any future pay increases that are agreed between public sector employers and trade unions, including for those working in public services in Scotland by allocating the necessary funds to the Scottish Government.

Proposed by (name): Councillor Paul McLennan
Date: 1 December 2020

Seconded by (name): Councillor Stuart Currie
Date: 1 December 2020

Received by (name of officer): Lel Gillingwater, Team Manager, Democratic & Licensing
Date: 1 December 2020