

The Soulbury Committee

OFFICERS' SIDE

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David Algie
Employers' Side Secretariat
The LGA
18 Smith Square
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18 April 2023

Dear David,

Soulbury Pay – Officers Side's Pay and Conditions Claim 2022

Thank you for your letter of 17 March. We are disappointed that you attempted to blame the Officers' Side for the delay in Soulbury Officers receiving the September 2022 increase. All of the unions in the Officers' Side continue to be in dispute about the inadequate pay offer for Soulbury Officers, which is well below RPI inflation of 12.6% in September 2022 and would therefore represent a huge real terms cut to our members' pay. RPI inflation has actually increased since September and was 13.8% in February 2023.

The Officers' Side urges the Employers' Side to engage in meaningful negotiations focused on the severe fall in the real value of pay for Soulbury Officers since 2010. This has caused particularly challenging recruitment and retention problems, which are having an adverse effect on the delivery of services which depend on Soulbury Officers. Those services include statutory obligations of local authorities.

Meaningful negotiations in Scotland resulted in an agreement for educational psychologists and improvement officers to receive a pay increase of 14% over two years. More information is here: [Current Salary Scales | EIS](#)

We will continue to engage our members in furtherance of this dispute during April before meeting in early May to consider our next steps. We again call on the Employers' Side to reconsider its position and we are of course available to discuss improvements in the offer.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D Powell", with a light blue horizontal line underneath it.

DAVID POWELL
Officers' Side Secretary