

The Soulbury Committee

OFFICERS' SIDE

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TEL: 0207 388 6191**

David Algie
Employers' Side Secretariat
The LGA
18 Smith Square
London
SW1P 3HZ

17 February 2023

Dear David,

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

All of the unions continue to reject 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.

In your letter of 3 February, you said that the Employers' Side was "unable" to increase the offer, but it is apparent that the Employers' Side position on this derives from its decision to apply the same offer as that made for other groups of local government workers. A "final offer" based on this was presented to the unions and the Employers' Side has not in our view engaged in meaningful negotiations with the unions. Nor has it taken properly into account the evidence we have presented on issues such as recruitment and retention, and the significant additional costs of engaging recruitment agencies in response to recruitment and retention problems. The Employers' Side is also taking no account of the significantly lower percentage pay increase that would result for Soulbury Officers compared with other groups of local government workers.

All of the unions therefore continue to be in dispute with LGA. The unions are continuing to engage their members in furtherance of this dispute. Our members are more engaged on pay than at any point in recent years, and are very angry at the pay offer made. The goodwill of Soulbury Officers, on which delivery of these crucial services depends, is at risk.

We again call on the Employers' Side to reconsider its position and we are of course available to discuss improvements in the offer.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "D Powell", followed by a horizontal line.

DAVID POWELL
Officers' Side Secretary