

To: Local Authorities in England and Wales
Employers' Side of the JNC for Youth and
Community Workers

4 July 2012

Dear Colleague

**JNC YOUTH AND COMMUNITY WORKERS – STAFF SIDE PAY CLAIM
2012**

The National Employers have formally responded to the Staff Side's pay claim for 2012. Following a consultation with local authorities it was clear that the majority of authorities across the country were of the view that they could not support a pay increase from 1 September.

There was genuine sympathy for the position of the lower-paid but authorities told us that the economic situation is such that any pay award could only be met through further job losses and cuts to services. The National Employers are clear that the priority must be to continue to seek to protect jobs and services in light of the huge budgetary pressures councils are facing. Consequently, they have informed the Staff Side that there will be no pay offer for 2012.

A letter has been sent to the Staff Side Secretary which outlines our position (copy attached). This letter also includes our response to the other elements of the Staff Side's claim which we have also rejected.

You will be aware that this will be the third consecutive year that the youth and community workforce has not received a pay offer. The National Employers have informed the Staff Side that they would wish to avoid a situation of not being able to make a pay offer for a fourth year in 2013-14 and have therefore invited the Staff Side to commence discussions on reform of the national negotiating machinery and conditions of service with a view to reaching agreement for implementation on 1 April 2013. Clearly some elements of this reform agenda are linked to any progress that can be made in taking forward discussions with the Union Side of the NJC for Local Government Services.

The Employers' decision to not make a pay offer this year will obviously come as a disappointment to the workforce but we hope that staff will understand the reasons why we think this is the appropriate decision.

Yours faithfully



Simon Pannell
Employers' Side Secretary