

Agenda Item No: **Report No:**
Report Title: **Pay Award 2010/11**
Report To: **Employment Committee** **Date:** **15 February 2010**
Ward(s) Affected: **All**
Report By: **Head of Business Services**
Contact Officer(s): **John Clark, Head of Business Services**

Purpose of Report:

To update the committee on the national negotiations underway regarding the annual cost of living increase for staff.

Officers Recommendation(s):

- 1 That the report is noted.

Information

- 1 The Council applies the national cost of living increases that are usually negotiated annually, (although on occasion deals for two or three years have been negotiated). There are a number of different negotiating bodies in local government, but only two of these have any relevance for us. The pay for the Corporate Management Team is linked to the agreements reached by the negotiating body for Chief Executives and all other staff have the pay increases agreed by the Local Government Services (LGS) negotiating body.
- 2 Last year LGS pay for the bottom seven points on the pay scale was increased by 1.25% and all others were increased by 1%. No increase at all was awarded by the Chief Executive's negotiating body.
- 3 This year the LGS unions have put in a claim for 2.5% or £500 whichever was the greater. No claim has yet been submitted on behalf of the Chief Executives.
- 4 However, the employers have written to the unions saying that there will not be offering any pay increase at all this year for any of the negotiating bodies. The unions have responded via a press release so far including "The unions are calling on the local government employers to think again, saying that local government workers will struggle to afford basic essentials, with nearly 3% inflation rendering the pay freeze a real terms pay cut. The unions are calling for them to come to their senses and make a reasonable offer, saying that there is room in council budgets to give workers decent pay."
- 5 Any changes to this position will be reported at the meeting.