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Peter Harwood
Chief Conciliator
ACAS
Euston Tower
286 Euston Road
London NW1 3JJ

1 March 2012

Dear Peter

NJC PAY AWARD 2012-2013: REQUEST FOR BINDING ARBITRATION

I am writing to you as NJC Trade Union Side Secretary concerning the Local Government Employers' response to us over our pay claim for 2012-2013. As you know, the Employers have decided not to make an award this year, following pay freezes in 2010-2011 and 2011-2012. They have further decided not to pay the £250 for those earning below £21,000 as promised by the Chancellor in his 2010 budget statement.

The Joint Trade Union Side met yesterday and agreed to reject the Employers' 'offer' and refer the Employers' failure to make an award to ACAS, with a view to binding arbitration as provided for by Paragraph 17 of the Constitution of the Green Book. You will note that the wording of Paragraph 17 provides for either side to refer a dispute to you.

Paragraph 17, Green Book Constitution

In the event of a dispute over terms and conditions of employment arising between the two sides of the Council the dispute shall, if requested by either side, be referred for settlement by arbitration. The arbitration award shall be accepted by both sides and shall be treated as though it were an agreement between the two sides.

In the event that the Employers refuse to abide by Paragraph 17, I would be grateful if you would let me know what action is open to the Trade Union Side to seek to ensure enforcement of the agreement.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Heather Wakefield'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Heather Wakefield
Joint Trade Union Side Secretary
NJC for Local Government Services

cc Brian Strutton, GMB
Peter Allenson, Unite