

GMB

SCOTLAND

Mr Derek Mackay MSP
Cabinet Secretary for Finance and the Constitution
The Scottish Government
St Andrews House
Regent Road
Edinburgh EH1 3DG

12 December, 2017

Dear Mr Mackay

The Scottish Budget and Public Sector Pay

You will have seen the inflation figures released today, confirming that the need for GMB Scotland members across the public sector to receive a proper pay rise has never been greater.

All summer GMB Scotland spoke with, and listened to, our public sector members about their experience delivering Scotland's public services. Those workers are telling me, and you, that they have worse living standards now than they did 5 years ago.

Your government has made the commitment to end austerity, well it is time to prove that.

GMB Scotland members have had enough of political point scoring, they need pounds in their pockets and that is within your powers. There will be no sympathy from GMB Scotland members for any politician that makes them worse off, privatised or redundant.

Our members are working harder than ever, covering extra shifts due to lack of staff, longer hours because otherwise service users will be left without, under more and more pressure from cost-stripping of vital services. It's a miracle that some services still function at all. But where they do - it's down to the hard work every single day of public sector workers.

I've seen the pay offer been offered to local government workers outside of Scotland, with an offer of 9.191% for the lowest paid, and I expect Scotland to be bolder.

I will wait to see what happens on Thursday but be assured GMB Scotland members will be watching to see what you do. They will not accept anything that makes them poorer.

Yours sincerely,



Drew Duffy
GMB Scotland Senior Organiser

GMB SCOTLAND – PROTECTING YOU AT WORK

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