



Your Ref:
Our Ref: AS/JB/SG
Contact: Angela Scott
Location: Marischal College

Date: 8 January 2021

Kevin Stewart MSP
Minister of Local Government & Housing

Dear Kevin

£500 Bonus Payment to Health & Social Care Staff

I write to you following a decision made at the meeting of Council on 14 December 2020, specifically in relation to the Council adopting the motion unanimously agreed by Cosla on 11 December 2020, on the above subject.

That detail of the Cosla motion, now adopted by Aberdeen City Council, is as follows:

£500 Bonus Payment to Health and Social Care Staff

- 1) Agree that whilst the Scottish Government's announcement to pay £500 (full-time equivalent) to NHS and Social Care staff is welcomed and deserved, it has missed tens of thousands of Public Sector Workers in Local Government, who have been working throughout the pandemic and left wondering why their heroic efforts are not worth rewarding.
- 2) Recognise that Local Government has been operating under extremely difficult circumstances - distributing food/medicine/essential items across Scotland, protecting/caring for our vulnerable and elderly, collecting waste, staffing temporary mortuaries, staffing the hubs of "keyworker" children, keeping schools and early years open, staffing the asymptomatic testing sites, Environmental Health & Trading Standards Officers enforcing public health and wellbeing, Mental Health Workers with increased caseloads, Housing and Craft workers who have been working in tenants homes, the army of cleaning staff who have done a brilliant job in our care homes/essential buildings/ schools and those who have been issuing emergency support grants, noting that this is not an exhaustive list.
- 3) Recognise the efforts made by many other key workers in the public, private and 3rd sectors in responding to the Covid 19 pandemic.
- 4) Call on Scottish Government to ensure that it recognises the efforts across our "one workforce" in local government and lobby Scottish Government to

ensure that this payment is extended to all Covid-19 responders and key workers across local government and that they are rewarded equally.

- 5) Seek their public assurance that Scottish Government will fully fund the payment and costs associated with the delivery of this payment.

The Council agreed that I write to you urging you to commit to ensuring that the £500 bonus payment to Health and Social Care staff is extended to all Covid-19 responders and key workers across local government; and agree that the Scottish Government should fully fund this one-off payment including any costs associated with the delivery of this payment.

I look forward to hearing from you in early course, on this important matter.

Yours sincerely



Angela Scott
Chief Executive