

THE UNISON AFFILIATED POLITICAL FUND

Our Ref: LL/VG/

Your Ref:

When telephoning please ask for: Val Gibson – Tel: 0121 685 3160 – Fax: 0121 685 4400
Email: v.gibson@unison.co.uk

TO ALL LABOUR COUNCILLORS

Dear Councillor Adamson

Pensions

As you are aware, the Government is yet again attacking the pensions of public sector pensions. Pensions that have been accrued over many years of work and pensions that workers rely on in their retirement.

I am writing to ask your Labour Group to adopt the position in the statement below and to take it to Council for the Council to adopt.

Labour Group Statement

We condemn the arbitrary 3.2% increase in employee contributions to the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) announced by George Osborne. This rise will force many current members of the scheme to leave with damaging consequences for them as individuals and the future viability of the scheme itself.

We reject the characterisation of local government pensions as “gold plated” and note that in 2009/10 the average LGPS annual pension was just £4052. We believe that LGPS, being a funded scheme, can be sustainable and affordable.

We believe this proposal seriously undermines these principles. We therefore demand that the chancellor withdraws his proposal and that the Government enters into dialogue with Local Authorities and the Trade Unions to secure the future of the LGPS.

I would be grateful if you would let me know;

1. If the Labour Group has adopted the position and
2. If the position was adopted by your Council

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Val Gibson
Regional Political Officer