Model Text for branches to follow up NJC TU Side email to all councillors in England Wales and Northern Ireland

Dear Councillor

**Local Government NJC Pay Claim 2014 – talk to our members and us**

I am writing to follow up the email the NJC Trade Union Side Secretaries sent you on 13 November 2013. Our claim is for a £1 an hour pay rise for all local government workers and for the lowest paid an increase to match the Living Wage.

I want to talk to you about the reasons for our claim and about how we can get our council to discuss and support it.

UNISON fully understands that our claim comes at a time of unprecedented cuts in local government funding. However, our members are suffering real financial hardship and their pay is the lowest across the whole public sector. A decent pay rise is not only fair for our members; it also makes good economic sense. Our members will have extra money to spend in our local high street. This will give our local businesses a boost and help get the economy going.

Please speak up for your workforce. Many of them are also your local constituents and deserve your support. Together we must make the council see that too. Talk to our members and us by (add local details)