

PAY POLICY STATEMENT FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2026 TO 31 MARCH 2027

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PAY POLICY FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2026 TO 31 MARCH 2027

1.0 INTRODUCTION AND SCOPE

- 1.1 At Barnsley Council we value diversity and are committed to equality within our workforce. Our ambition is to be a place where everyone is valued, respected, treated fairly and with dignity. The approach we take to equality and diversity is informed by our vision and values and seeks to address the challenges we face, and to learn from the progress and achievements we have made so far.
- 1.2 Pay fairness is an important part of this commitment and as well as defining our policy on pay and related allowances and we are working on actions identified in our gender pay gap.
- 1.3 In addition, Section 38 - 43 of the Localism Act 2011 (as supplemented) requires Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council (referred to as the Council) to produce a policy statement that covers several matters concerning the pay of our employees.
- 1.4 It details the arrangements for the determination of salary, how salary levels are determined, the method for pay progression (where applicable) and the payment of allowances. It should be noted that the policy does not apply to employees within locally managed schools but does apply to Teachers who are centrally employed with the council within Children's services.
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2.0 DETERMINATION OF PAY

2.1 Chief Officers

The Council's policy on remunerating Chief Officers is set out below and in Annex A. For the purpose of the policy a Chief Officer is defined as the Chief Executive and Executive Directors. The terms and conditions of employment for such Chief Officers are as specified in the Joint National Committee for Chief Executives and Joint National Committee for Chief Officers as supplemented by Local Agreements.

2.1.1 Salary on Appointment

The post will be advertised and appointed to at the agreed approved salary unless there is good evidence that a successful appointment of a person with the required skills, knowledge, experience, abilities and qualities cannot be made without varying the remuneration package. In such circumstances a variation to the remuneration package is appropriate under the Council's policy and any variation will be approved through the appropriate decision-making process.

2.1.2 Pay Increases

The Council will apply any pay increases that are agreed by relevant national negotiating bodies and/or any pay increases that are agreed through local negotiations. The Council will also apply any pay increases that are as a result of authority decisions to significantly increase the duties and responsibilities of the post in question beyond the normal flexing of duties and responsibilities that are expected in senior posts. Beyond this the Council would not make additional payments outside those specified in the contract of employment.

2.2 NJC Grades 1 to 17

The Council uses the National Joint Council (NJC) Job Evaluation Scheme and has a pay structure consisting of 17 Grades which can be found in the link below.

[17 Grade Pay Structure](#)

The grading structure currently covers all staff on NJC terms and conditions up to Heads of Service level.

The pay grades for positions on NJC terms and conditions are determined utilising the NJC Job Evaluation scheme which is implemented jointly with the respective Trade Unions.

2.2.1 Salary on Appointment

Employees appointed to positions on NJC Grades 1 to 17 will normally be placed on the first point of the grade for the post. However, managers, in consultation with their Service Director have the discretion to award higher starting points within the grade of the post in order to salary match or if justified by the skills and experience of the candidate.

2.2.2 Salary on Promotion/Secondment

On promotion or secondment employees should normally be placed on the first point of the grade for the post. However, managers, in consultation with their Service Director have the discretion to award higher starting points within the grade of the post in order to salary match or if justified by the skills and experience of the candidate.

2.2.3 Pay Increases

The Council will apply any pay increases that are agreed by relevant national negotiating bodies and/or any pay increases that are agreed through local negotiations.

2.2.4 Pay Progression

Pay progression for employees on NJC Grades 1 to 17 is as outlined in the Incremental Pay Progression Guidance attached in the link below.

[Pay Progression](#)

2.3 Service Directors

Service Directors will be paid on the same fixed salary determined through pay benchmarking.

2.3.1 Salary on Appointment

Appointments will be to the agreed fixed salary for Service Directors unless there is good evidence that a successful appointment of a person with the required skills, knowledge, experience, abilities and qualities cannot be made without varying the remuneration package. In such circumstances a variation to the remuneration package

is appropriate under the Council's policy and any variation will be approved through the appropriate decision-making process.

2.3.2 Pay Increases

The Council will apply any pay increases that are agreed by relevant national negotiating bodies and/or any pay increases that are agreed through local negotiations. The Council will also apply any pay increases that are as a result of authority decisions to significantly increase the duties and responsibilities of the post in question beyond the normal flexing of duties and responsibilities that are expected in senior posts. Beyond this the Council would not make additional payments outside those specified in the contract of employment.

2.4 Soulbury Officers

2.4.1 Salary on Appointment

The Soulbury Committee provides a voluntary collective bargaining machinery in respect of the salaries and service conditions of the following categories: -

- a) Educational Improvement Professionals
- b) Educational Psychologists

An employee appointed to one of these positions for the first time shall be placed at the minimum of the scale deemed appropriate by the Council. Where the employee has had previous experience which the authority considers should be regarded as equivalent value to service, the Council shall determine a higher incremental point up to the maximum.

2.4.2 Educational Improvement Professionals

A salary scale for Educational Improvement Professionals should consist of no more than 4 points (subject to additional points needed to accommodate discretionary scale extensions or SPA points).

Educational Improvement Professionals undertaking the full range of duties would usually be appointed on a minimum point of 8.

Senior Educational Improvement Professionals undertaking the full range of duties would usually be appointed on a minimum point of 13.

Leading Educational Improvement Professionals undertaking the full range of duties would usually be appointed on a minimum point of 20.

2.4.3 [Educational Improvement Professionals pay scale](#)

Educational Psychologists

Trainee Educational Psychologists in their second and third year of training should be paid on a point selected from the 6 point Trainee Educational Psychologist pay scale. While Trainee Educational Psychologists will be employed on the basis that they will be available for work for 3 days per week in the second year and 4 days per week in the third year of training, it is not intended that their pay rates should be applied on any pro rata basis

Assistant Educational Psychologists are paid on the Assistant Educational Psychologist pay scale and should not remain on this scale for more than 4 years. Educational Psychologists would usually be appointed on an individual 6 point pay range on Scale A which will be 1-6, 2-7 or 3-8 based on an assessment of recruitment and retention and other local factors. Managers have the discretion to appoint above the minimum of the selected scale.

Senior Educational Psychologists would usually be appointed on a 4 point pay range on Scale B

Principal Educational Psychologists would usually be appointed on a 4 point pay range on Scale B with a minimum starting point of point 4.

Educational Psychologists paid on Scales A/B are also eligible for up to 3 Structured Professional Assessment (SPA) points

2.4.4 [Educational Psychologists Pay Scale](#)

Salary on Promotion/Secondment

On promotion or secondment employees should normally be placed on the first point of the range for the post. However, managers, in consultation with their Service Director have the discretion to award higher starting points within the grade of the post in order to salary match or if justified by the skills and experience of the candidate.

(The Council should provide a career structure for Educational Psychologists and further details can be obtained from The Report of the Committee on Salary Scales and Service Conditions of Inspectors and Advisory Officers of Local Education Authorities).

2.4.5 Incremental Pay Progression

The pay awards for Advisors, Inspectors and Psychologists are effective from 1st September each year subject to six months service in the post, until the maximum of the grade is reached.

Soulbury staff also have the opportunity to apply for up to 3 further points on the salary scale (in addition to their 4-point range) and these are called Structured Professional Assessment points (SPA's). A copy of the application for Structured Professional Assessment Points Guidance notes can be found in the link below: -

[Structured Professional Assessment Guidance](#)

2.5 **Centrally Employed Teachers**

The pay policy for Centrally Employed Teachers falls under the terms of the School Teachers Pay and Conditions and guidance on School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document (referred to as the Document).

[School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document 2025 and guidance on School Teachers' Pay and Conditions](#)

The Council will review every qualified teacher's salary with effect from 1 September each year. Reviews may take place at other times of the year to reflect any changes in circumstances or job descriptions that will affect pay.

The statutory pay arrangements give significant discretion over the awarding of allowances and the criteria used by the Council to determine the application of the discretionary elements. Decisions on the way these discretions will be used are the responsibility of the Executive Director, Children's Services.

2.6 Adult Education Tutors

Following the cessation of the (Silver Book) a Local Agreement for Adult Education Lecturers was agreed and implemented in September 2002. The Agreement covers staff employed as Lecturers (Qualified and Unqualified), Curriculum Co-ordinators, Lead Tutors, Curriculum Support and Information Officers Learning /Project Co-ordinators.

[Adult Education Tutors Pay Scales](#)

2.6.1 Salary on Appointment

A new employee to the Service would normally be appointed at the bottom of the relevant pay scale although additional increments may be considered for previous relevant experience or continuous service in establishments recognised under the Redundancy Payments (Modification) Order 1999.

2.6.2

Pay Progression

The pay awards for employees covered by the Local Agreement for Adult Education Lecturers 2008 are based upon the pay increase awarded to JNC Youth and Community Workers. Any such awards are effective from 1st September each year.

During employment annual increments shall be awarded on 1st September each year subject to six months service in the post, until the maximum of the grade is reached.

2.7 Agenda For Change

The Agenda for Change pay structure is applicable to staff within the extended remit of the NHS Pay Review Body (NHSPRB). The pay spine is divided into 9 pay bands (pay band 8 is subdivided into 4 ranges) and positions were assigned to a pay band in accordance with the NHS Job Evaluation Scheme.

2.7.1 Salary on Appointment

Upon commencement to a post staff were normally appointed to the lowest pay point of the agreed band with the exception of staff appointed on Band 5 who have accelerated progression through the first two pay points in six monthly steps providing management are satisfied that they meet the required 'standard of practice'. This 12-month period is known as the 'Preceptorship'. Employees affected by TUPE transferred on the same terms and conditions applicable pre-transfer. The Council reserves the right to evaluate and appoint to all new posts in accordance with the NJC terms and conditions for Local Government Employees.

2.7.2 Salary on Promotion

Pay on promotion should be set either at the minimum of the new pay band or, if this would result in no pay increase, the first pay point in the band which would deliver an increase in pay. However, as stated in 2.7.1, the Council reserves the right to evaluate and appoint to all posts, including promotion opportunities, in accordance with the NJC terms and conditions for Local Government Employees.

2.7.3 Pay Progression

Progression through the individual pay bands is by annual increments on the anniversary of appointment to the post. This progression is dependent upon satisfactory performance in the role and demonstration of the agreed knowledge and skills appropriate to that part of the pay band as detailed in the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework.

3.0 LOWEST PAID SALARY

3.1 For the purpose of the policy lowest paid employees are defined as those earning the lowest paid salary in accordance with the councils pay structure. The lowest pay point in this Council is Grade 2 point 3 which equates to an annual salary of £24,796 and can be expressed as an hourly rate of pay of £12.85.

3.2 The Council is committed to tackling low pay and has pledged to pay a low pay supplement equivalent to the Foundation Living Wage rate.

3.3 The pay rate is increased in accordance with any pay settlements which are reached through the National Joint Council for Local Government Services and through increases to the Living Wage as advised by the Living Wage Foundation.

4.0 HIGHEST PAID SALARY

4.1 The highest paid salary in this council is currently £203,158 which is paid to the Chief Executive. The median average salary in this council (not including schools) is £34,434. The ratio between the two salaries, the 'pay multiple' is 5.9:1. The authority is conscious of the need to ensure that the salary of the highest paid employee is not excessive and is consistent with the needs of the Council and as such the Council takes the view that the pay multiple acts as a control element which will be monitored and reported annually as part of the review of this Pay Policy.

4.2 The Council is required to publish Chief Officer salaries on an annual basis as part of the Statement of Accounts. Details can be found at:

[Statement of Accounts 2024/25](#)

5.0 OTHER PAY RELATED POLICIES

A number of other pay related policies are outlined below which are applicable to all employees except centrally employed school teachers, whose statutory pay and conditions of service fall under the terms of the School Teachers Pay and Conditions Document. The information contained below provides a summary of allowances and

must be read in conjunction with the relevant 'Conditions of Service' document/Local Agreement.

The Council also has a protocol which allows changes to working practices to be agreed and implemented. As a consequence, the agreements relating to premium payments, shift allowances and standby payments may have been varied from the standard agreement.

5.1 **Allowances**

5.1.1 **Bank Holiday Working**

- Employees required to work on a public or extra statutory holiday shall, in addition to the normal pay for that day, be paid plain time rate for all hours worked within their normal working hours for that day. In addition, at a later date, time off with pay shall be allowed as follows:
 - Time worked less than half the normal working hours on that day - half day
 - Time worked more than half the normal working hours on that day - full day

5.1.2 **Overtime/Additional Hours**

- Overtime rates – Employees who are required to work overtime/additional hours beyond their working week are entitled to receive enhancements on the following basis
 - Monday to Saturday- - time and half
 - Sunday – time and half

The Council has a Planned Overtime Policy which applies to employees of Grade 7 and above who undertake overtime. Full details of the provision can be found at:

[Planned Overtime Policy](#)

- Part-time employees will only be paid overtime rates in circumstances where an equivalent full time employee would receive them e.g. for a part-time employee who normally works Monday to Friday, work up to 37 hours per week will be paid at plain time, thereafter and at weekends overtime rates will be payable.

5.1.3 **Weekend Working**

- Employees who are required to work on Saturday and/or Sunday as part of their normal working week are entitled to the following enhancements:
 - Saturday - time and half
 - Sunday - time and half

5.1.4 **Night work**

Employees who work at night as part of their normal working week are entitled to receive an enhancement of time and half for all hours worked between 10pm and

6am, Monday to Sunday i.e. no additional enhancement is payable for weekend working.

The night rate shall be payable in addition to the enhanced rates of pay for additional hours (overtime) worked on a Monday to Sunday night between the hours of 10pm and 6am e.g. an employee working Saturday night as overtime will receive time and half for hours worked Saturday plus an additional 50% of the hourly rate due to working at night (between 10pm and 6am).

5.1.5 Alternating Shifts

- An enhancement of 10% will be payable to employees working alternating shifts providing all of the following criteria are met:
 - The total period covered by the shifts is 11 hours or more
 - There are at least 4 hours between the starting time and the earliest and latest shift.

5.1.6 Rotating Shifts

- An enhancement equivalent to:
 - 10% of salary for three shifts on a rota basis including a night shift over 5 or 6 days, or
 - 10% of salary for three shifts on a rota basis including a night shift over 7 days will be payable to employees working rotating shifts providing all of the following criteria are met:
 - ◆ The total period covered by the shifts is 18 hours or more
 - ◆ At least 4 hours worked between 7pm and 7am.

5.1.7 In addition to the above mentioned the Council has a number of local agreements covering areas such as:

- Car Mileage Allowance - employees who use their private car whilst undertaking official business in the course of their employment, mileage will be reimbursed at the Approved Mileage Allowance Payments (AMAP) rates as specified by HM Revenue and Customs.
- Recruitment and Retention Procedure - provides a series of payment options to assist with recruitment and retention issues.
- Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards Payments - The Council has a statutory duty to undertake assessments under Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DOLS). A payment will be made in accordance with the local agreement.
- Laundry Allowance - additional payment to recompense employees for cleaning allocated uniforms.
- Standby/Call out - An employee who is contractually required or volunteers to be available on a standby/call out basis will be recompensed by payment of an amount determined locally.
- Approved Mental Health Professionals (AMHP) allowance - Is an annual allowance paid over 12 equal monthly instalments to AMHP's who undertake this role in addition to their post.

The above is not an exhaustive list of local agreements.

6.0 **PROFESSIONAL SUBSCRIPTIONS**

6.1 This payment of fees currently applies only to employees of Legal Services who are Solicitors and are required to hold a practising certificate and for Social Care Workers who are required to be registered by the British Association of Social Workers (BASW).

Payment will not be made for membership of any other professional organisation, whether or not membership is a requirement of the appointment.

7.0 **REMUNERATION COMMITTEES**

7.1 The Council does not utilise a Remuneration Committee to determine grading of posts. The evaluation of posts is a complex issue requiring use of specialised trained joint officer and trade union panels to recommend grades for posts as determined by the appropriate evaluation process. Recommended grades are subject to approval by the agreed Council decision making process i.e. Delegated/Cabinet Reports.

8.0 **SELECTIVE VOLUNTARY EARLY RETIREMENT/VOLUNTARY SEVERANCE POLICY**

8.1 The Selective Voluntary Early Retirement and Voluntary Severance schemes enable the Council to reduce the size of its workforce in line with prevailing economic conditions, whilst at the same time compensating eligible employees by either immediate payment of pension benefits and/or a redundancy payment. The Council's Policy relating to all employees who are members of the Local Government Pension Scheme can be found at:

[SVER and VS Schemes](#)

9.0 **SPECIAL SEVERANCE PAYMENTS**

9.1 A special severance payment can be made to employees outside of statutory contractual or other requirements when leaving employment. The council may consider making such a payment in exceptional circumstances. The rationale for making a special severance payment will be particular to the circumstances and the type of special severance payment will vary accordingly. Further examples of these are covered in the Government guidance below.

[Special Severance Payments Guidance](#)

9.2 Where the level of payment is £100,000 and above, then approval must be sought from full council.

9.3 Where the level of payment is £20,000 and above, but below £100,000 then approval must be sought by the Head of Paid Service (delegated under the Constitution to Service Directors and S151 Officer), with a clear record of the Leader's approval.

9.4 Where the level of payment is below £20,000, then approval must be sought in accordance with the councils' scheme of delegation.

10.0 EMPLOYMENT OF PERSONS IN RECEIPT OF A PENSION OR REDUNDANCY/ SEVERANCE PAYMENT

10.1 The council has a statutory obligation to appoint on merit and has to ensure that it complies with all appropriate employment and equalities legislation. The council will always seek to appoint the best available candidate to a post who has the skills, knowledge, experience, abilities and qualities needed for the post.

10.2 If a candidate is an employee in receipt of a pension (this includes ill health pensions) from a public sector organisation including local government, civil service, teachers pensions, police (Civil or Warranted Officers), armed forces, or any other covered by the Modification Order or a redundancy/ severance payment as a result of being made redundant this will not rule them out from being employed.

10.3 The re-engagement of public sector employees can, provide practical solutions to specific workload/project staffing needs due to their previous knowledge and experience.

10.4 The council will consider applications from persons in receipt of pensions and there is no barrier to such a person being appointed. Pensions Regulations have provisions to reduce pension payments in certain circumstances of those who return to work within local government service. Should an applicant in receipt of a pension be successful, they should be advised that commencing employment with the authority may affect their pension entitlements and they should therefore seek advice from the relevant Pensions Authority.

10.5 The authority will also apply the provisions of the Redundancy Payments (continuity of Employment in Local Government, etc.) Order 1999 (as amended) regarding the recovery of redundancy payments if this is relevant and appropriate.

11.0 PENSION SCHEMES

11.1 Local Government Pension Scheme

Eligible employees automatically become a member of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) if they have a contract of employment for at least three months. Where the employee has a contract for less than three months, the employee may elect to join the scheme. However, LGPS scheme regulations are superseded by pension's auto-enrolment legislation which requires all employees to automatically pay pension contributions where the earnings level is above the threshold. Employees may choose to opt out of auto-enrolment. The LGPS is a tax approved occupational pension scheme set up under the Superannuation Act 1972. The contribution rate depends on the level of earnings but is currently between 5.5% and 12.5% of pensionable pay.

The Council pays the balance of the cost of providing benefits in the LGPS currently 16.3%. Every three years an independent review is undertaken to calculate how much the employer should contribute to the Scheme. Increases or decreases in the cost of

providing the scheme may, in future, need to be shared between members and employers, in accordance with government guidance.

Full details of the LGPS can be found at:

[South Yorkshire Pensions Authority - Homepage](#)

11.2 **Teachers' Pensions Scheme**

For Centrally employed teachers or posts that the Council decides are eligible for membership of the Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) new appointees will automatically become scheme members.

The TPS is a contributory scheme administered by Teachers' Pensions (TP) on behalf of the Department for Education (DfE). It is a defined benefit 'final salary' scheme providing a lump sum and pension after retirement. Members of the TPS contributions rates range from 7.4% to 12% depending on the level of earnings. The Council pays a further 28.68%.

Information relating to the TPS can be found at:

[Teachers' Pension Scheme](#)

11.3 **NHS Pension Scheme**

Some employees in Public Health roles have pension protections and continue to contribute to the NHS Pension scheme.

Information relating to the scheme can be found at:

[NHS Pension Scheme](#)

12.0 **AMENDMENTS TO THE POLICY**

- 12.1 It is anticipated that this policy may need to be amended further during the period it covers i.e. 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2027. If circumstances dictate that a change of policy is considered to be appropriate during the year then a revised draft will be presented to Full Council for consideration.

13.0 **POLICY FOR FUTURE YEARS**

- 13.1 The policy will be reviewed each year and will be presented to full Council each year for consideration in order to ensure that a policy is in place for the Council prior to the start of each financial year.

14.0 **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY**

- 14.1 This policy has been impact assessed by Human Resources, if on reading this policy you feel there are any equality and diversity issues, please contact your Directorate Strategic People Partner who will if necessary, ensure the policy is reviewed.

15.0 INCOME TAX AND NATIONAL INSURANCE CONTRIBUTIONS

15.1 Sections 682-702 of the Income Tax (Earnings and Pensions) Act 2003 (ITEPA) impose a duty on an employer to account for PAYE on employment income paid to employees. PAYE applies to all payments of income within the charge to tax under ITEPA 2003.

15.2 There are three classes of national insurance contributions (NICs) which are payable by or in respect of employees:

Class 1 contributions, which are earnings related. Primary contributions are paid by “employed earners” secondary contributions are paid by employers.

Class 1A contributions, which are payable annually by secondary contributors only, based upon taxable value of benefits reported on forms P11D.

Class 1B contributions, which are payable annually by secondary contributors only, based on the tax borne under a PAYE Settlement Agreement (PSA).

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Annex A Chief Officer Remuneration

Aspect of Chief Officer Remuneration	BMBC Policy
Recruitment	The post will be advertised and appointed to at the appropriate approved salary for the post in question unless there is good evidence that a successful appointment of a person with the required skills, knowledge, experience, abilities and qualities cannot be made without varying the remuneration package. In such circumstances a variation to the remuneration package is appropriate under the Council's policy and any variation will be approved through the appropriate decision making process.
Pay Increases	The Council will apply any pay increases that are agreed by relevant national negotiating bodies and/or any pay increases that are agreed through local negotiations. The Council will also apply any pay increases that are as a result of authority decisions to significantly increase the duties and responsibilities of the post in question beyond the normal flexing of duties and responsibilities that are expected in senior posts subject to approval by the appropriate decision making process.
Additions To Pay	The Council would not make additional payments beyond those specified in the contract of employment.
Performance Related Pay	The Council does not operate a performance related pay system as it believes that it has sufficiently strong performance management arrangements in place to ensure high performance from its senior officers. Any areas of under-performance are addressed in accordance with Council Policy.
Earn-Back (Withholding an element of base pay related to performance)	The authority does not operate an earn-back pay system as it believes that it has sufficiently strong performance management arrangements in place to ensure high performance from its senior officers. Any areas of under-performance are addressed rigorously.
Bonuses	The Council does not pay bonus payments to employees.
Termination Payments	The Council applies its normal redundancy payments arrangements to senior officers and does not have separate provisions for senior officers. The Council also applies the appropriate Pensions regulations when they apply. The Council has agreed policies in place on how it will apply any discretionary powers it has under Pensions regulations. Any costs that are incurred regarding senior officers are published in the Council's accounts as required under the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011.
Transparency	The Council meets its requirements under the Localism Act, the Code of Practice on Data Transparency and the Accounts and Audit Regulations in order to ensure that it is open and transparent regarding senior officer remuneration.
Employment of persons in receipt of a pension or redundancy/severance payment	Refer to Section 9.

Implementation Date	Pre 2013/14
Author	Pay and Reward Team
Revised/Updated	26 January 2026
Brief Reason for Change	Annual updates: refresh of links, salary and pension data. Several links failed, SD Title updated, version control
Version Control	1.0

Document Control