

East Lothian Council

FOI Ref: 2018/543199

Can I ask how much money your local authority had set aside for total pay for the financial year 2018/19 when your budget was set?

Staffing Budget set aside for total pay in 2018/19 Financial Year - £145,370,319.

Can I ask what change, if any, there has been to this amount since the setting of your budget and, if the amount set aside is now greater, where this additional funding has come from?

The budget model built in a 3% increase in budget for pay for staff earning up to £36,500, 2% for staff earning over £36,000, and a flat amount of £1,600 for staff earning over £80,000 this all equates to an average increase of 2.78%. This is in line with the Scottish Governments Public Pay Policy. Negotiations between recognised trade unions and COSLA are ongoing and as such no adjustments have been made to the budget, however the risk of the increase being higher than budgeted was highlighted in the councils Q1 financial monitoring report to council.