



Rt Hon Jeremy Quin MP  
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Rt Hon Sir George Howarth MP  
House of Commons  
London  
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By email: [george.howarth.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:george.howarth.mp@parliament.uk)

14 February 2023

Dear Sir George,

Thank you for your email of 25 January to the Chancellor of the Exchequer on behalf of your constituents regarding Civil Service Pay. I am responding as the Minister for the Cabinet Office.

I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate on behalf of the entire UK government, our gratitude for the exceptional commitment Civil Servants and public servants have shown in supporting essential public service delivery during this challenging time.

We of course recognise the significant strain that cost of living pressures are putting on everyone, including Civil Servants, and this Government has been helping with energy support and other cost of living payments for the most vulnerable. However, we have to be fiscally responsible and conscious of what is affordable, alongside taking the appropriate steps to manage inflation; it is only by getting inflation under control that we stop interest rates climbing, mortgage payments increasing and bills rising for people across the country.

In Autumn 2021 the then Chancellor of the Exchequer announced the lifting of the temporary public sector pay pause. This means that civil servants have seen pay uplifts in 2022/23, although I recognise these will be below current levels of inflation. However, we have to ensure the long term sustainability of public finances and deliver value for money for the taxpayers.

My focus is on pay for 23/24 and I have met trade unions to discuss their views. I have asked officials to continue the dialogue with the unions and am aware that further discussions are underway.

As you may be aware, pay arrangements for Civil Servants below the Senior Civil Service are delegated to departments as separate employers. This has been the case since 1996.

Negotiations take place between organisations and trade unions, and the Cabinet Office does not negotiate or consult on pay or terms and conditions changes outside the Civil Service Management Code. Ultimately it is for departments to decide on their pay award and how it is structured in light of their own budgets and priorities and to negotiate with their trade unions.

Thank you for taking the time to write on this important matter.

**Yours sincerely,**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeremy Quin', is centered on the page. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'J' and a distinct 'Q'.

**RT HON JEREMY QUIN MP  
MINISTER FOR THE CABINET OFFICE  
HM PAYMASTER GENERAL**