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**JOINT NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE
FOR CORONERS
MANAGEMENT SIDE**

To: Chief Executives (London Boroughs, Metropolitan Districts, County Councils and Unitary Councils in England and Wales)

25 August 2026

Dear colleague,

In our last circular issued on [9 July](#) we provided the management side pay recommendation for 2026/2027 which was an increase of 3.50 per cent from 1 April. Noting of course, that there is no agreement on this level of award due to the withdrawal of the Coroners Society of England and Wales (CSEW) from the Joint Negotiating Committee (JNC).

For those local authorities who wish to follow this recommendation, the table below illustrates a 3.50 per cent uplift in pay. As the JNC no longer exists, this is advice only, and we acknowledge that some local authorities may have already made a local offer to their Coroners.

Senior coroner	1st April 2025	1st April 2026
Range	£137,379 to £152,645	£142,188 to £157,988

Part-time senior coroner	1st April 2025	1st April 2026
Base salary	£23,484	£24,306
Daily rate	£519 to £588	£538 to £609

Area coroner	1st April 2025	1st April 2026
Range	£102,155 to £117,419	£105,731 to £121,529

Assistant coroner	1st April 2025	1st April 2026
Daily rate	£442 to £533	£458 to £552

In our last circular, we also shared the correspondence between the CSEW and the Lord Chancellor. We reported that the management side have agreed to support the Lord Chancellor's recommendation that an independent evaluation of Coronial roles takes place. As a reminder, this is what the Lord Chancellor said about this in his letter to CSEW:

'I would strongly encourage the CSEW and LGA, as a first step, to jointly commission a fresh and authoritative independent evaluation of coronial roles. I believe this would provide a robust basis for a refreshed, jointly endorsed and modernised pay framework, which may take into account wider remuneration frameworks in the public and private sector where both parties agree they are relevant'.

Since then, we have been in correspondence with the CSEW but continue to disagree over the issue of comparators. The CSEW are of the view that any evaluation should only include other judicial and legal roles, whilst the management side remain firmly of the view that any such evaluation should include benchmarking against other roles in both the public sector at a similar level of seniority - specifically within local government (as was the case in the original [Korn Ferry Hay report](#) in 2017) alongside those in judicial roles. The CSEW feel that is an unacceptable position.

By way of a reminder, the management side had already committed to having greater regard to the pay increases awarded via the Senior Salaries Review Body (SSRB), and suggested moving the annual pay review date (which currently sits at 1 April each year) to a point in time that enables the SSRB process to have concluded (which is generally over the summer period) so that it could be taken account of in those annual negotiations in a meaningful way.

Unfortunately though, we have not been able to reach agreement on a constructive way forward with the CSEW and we remain at an impasse. The management side will continue to provide support to local authorities on Coronial pay but for now we do not expect there to be any further developments toward reestablishing the JNC. We will of course keep you updated as any further developments arise.

If you have any questions about this circular or any other queries on any of these issues, then please contact us at coroners.queries@local.gov.uk.

Best wishes

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JNC for Coroners

