



The professional association for
social work and social workers

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Sent by email to: [REDACTED]

FAO: Cllr Shona Morrison, President of COSLA and Cllr Paul Kelly, Health and Social Care Spokesperson

Dear Cllr Morrison and Cllr Kelly

As you will know, on 21 May 2026, the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced that non-taxable mileage rates would be increased after years of campaigning by BASW/SASW and other organisations. For those who use their vehicles for work, this payment will go from 45p a mile to 55p.

As this rate was last set in 2011, this is a welcome reprieve for workers, including social workers and social care workers. Our members are amongst those who are most heavily reliant on their personal vehicles for work-related travel and have seen the value of the payment dwindle drastically due to inflation and rising operating costs.

We now need the support of all local authorities in Scotland to increase the reimbursement rate in line with the HMRC non-taxable mileage rate, and to backdate claims to April 2026 to reflect HMRC policy.

We remain committed to a non-taxable rate of at least 60p and parity of mileage rates between NHS employees and those who are employed by local authorities. However, we welcome this step in the right direction.

We hope that this change can be prioritised to address the financial disparity between colleagues in integrated settings and provide a much-needed boost to the finances of our members and their colleagues.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Jane

Jane Shears, National Director, SASW