

Responding to a report by Incomes Data Services which shows that bonuses paid to Britain's top bosses have fallen by 29% over the last year, Peter Montagnon, the ABI's Director of Investment Affairs, said:

"It is good to see there has been some restraint, but companies in every sector have to remember the paramount importance of taking care with remuneration during this sensitive time of recession. Now, more than ever, is the time to recognise that excessive reward will ultimately destroy faith in the integrity of the system and make it impossible to reward success in the future. A lot of salaries in big companies have been frozen so we are seeing some pressure on pay. We own 15% of the market, it's a lot and it gives us some influence. The pension funds are only 13% so we're not a majority but if you look at the figures you will see there've been more and more votes against this year and companies are feeling the pressure. There is some adjustment going on."

ENDS