**Barcelona and Real Madrid players get over $7m a year**

Top Spanish football clubs Barcelona and Real Madrid pay their players more than $7m (£4.3m) a year, on average.

The two, who are regularly in the top three richest football clubs worldwide, have overtaken the New York Yankees as the best paid global sports teams.The review, by Sporting Intelligence, found first team players' average pay for the last season was $7.9m for Barcelona and $7.4m for Real Madrid.

# Public servants: Who earns most?

Teachers starting off in classrooms in England and Wales earn £20,133. There is an extra £4,000 for those working in inner London. After initial training, all police officers start earning £24,039 a year. There is also London weighting for those working in the capital, currently just over £2,000.

Qualified fire-fighters all receive £27,185. Unlike police constables, there is no extra money for experience. The average pay for a nurse is almost £25,000. However, the pay scale is very wide. Pay is decided on experience, specialist skills and the actual role.

**1. Why do highly skilled public servants get paid less than footballers?**

**2. Why do you think football clubs manage to pay such high wages?**

**3. Are public servants more skilled than footballers?**

**4. What do you think the problems would be if the government raised public servants’ pay?**

**5. In your opinion, do footballers deserve their pay and why?**