
Report to Council

Members Allowances

Officer Contact: Paul Entwistle,
Director of Legal Services

20th May, 2015

1. Background

- 1.1 Each year the Council is required to approve the Members Allowances scheme. An independent Remuneration Panel is established to make recommendations on the level of members allowances.
- 1.2 The Panel considered representations from the Leader of the Council and the Leader of the Main Opposition group. This year's consideration was not a fully comprehensive exercise where detailed evidence was provided as this will take place next year.
- 1.3 The Panel considered the submissions and made the following recommendations:
 - a) The allowance for Executive Members should reflect the increasing duties and responsibilities and time commitment involved in the role. It was considered that the existing allowance of 50% of the Leader's allowance should be increased to 60%.
 - b) The allowance for the Deputy Leader should be increased to 70% of the Leader's allowance to reflect the full time commitment of the Deputy Leader position.
 - c) A Leader of a Minority Opposition Group should not receive an allowance unless the group comprised 6 members or more.
 - d) Representations should be made to the Greater Manchester Combined Authority on funding for allowances arising from work of this authority.
 - e) The basic allowance should remain unchanged for the next municipal year.
 - f) A full review of allowances to be undertaken for the next municipal year.

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- 1.4 It has though been custom and practice to link any NJC pay award to the Members Basic Allowance. The NJC pay award was recently determined at 2.2%.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 Council are asked to consider the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel.
- 2.2 Council are asked to agree a Members Allowances scheme for 2015/16. Appendix 1 details the scheme and includes the pay award increase.
3. Background papers.

The following is a list of background papers on which this report is based in accordance with the requirements of Section 100 (1) of the Local Government Act 1972. It does include documents which would disclose exempt or confidential information as defined by the Act:-

File – Members Allowance
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