

## Report to COUNCIL

# Members Allowances Scheme

**Officer Contact:** Paul Entwistle, Director of Legal Services

**17 June 2020**

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## 1 Background

- 1.1 Every 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 This year Panel considered information from the Leader, an Executive Member, Chair of an Overview and Scrutiny committee and Deputy Leader of the Main Opposition Group on special responsibility duties. They also considered representations from on the roles and responsibilities of members, the time required to deal with casework and work required on undertaking committee work.
- 1.3 The Panel also considered the members allowances schemes across Greater Manchester Councils and those of Kirklees and Calderdale.
- 1.4 The Panel made the recommendation that members allowances for 2020/21 should remain the same as in 2019/20 but with increases linked to the officer pay increase for that municipal year. The officer pay increase has not yet been agreed.

## 2 Recommendations

- 2.1 Councils are asked to consider the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel.
- 2.2 Councils are asked to agree a Members Allowance Scheme for 2020/21. Appendix 1 to this report details the proposed scheme based on the Independent Remuneration Panel recommendation, but this does not include the proposed increase referred to in 1.4 above as this has not been agreed yet.

**3 Financial Implications**

3.1 During the financial year 2019/20, the expenditure on Members allowances was £1.026m. The budget for 2020/21 has been prepared to accommodate expenditure at the 2019/20 level plus a pay award aligned to that of officers. (Anne Ryans)

**4. Legal Services Comments**

4.1 Council is required to consider the Members Allowances Scheme after recommendations from the Independent Remuneration Panel.

**5. Risk Assessments**

5.1 N/A

**6. IT Implications**

6.1 N/A

**7 Property Implications**

7.1 None

**8. Procurement Implications**

8.1 N/A

**9. Environmental and Health & Safety Implications**

9.1 N/A

**10 Equality, community cohesion and crime implications**

10.1 N/A

**11. Equality Impact Assessment Completed?**

11.1 N/A

**12. Key Decision**

12.1 No

**13. Key Decision Reference**

13.1 N/A

**14. Background Papers**

14.1 N/A

15 **Appendices**

1- Members Allowances Scheme