

## **COUNCIL**

## **MEMBER ALLOWANCES**

Officer Contact: Paul Entwistle, Director Legal Services

7<sup>th</sup> September 2022

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**7<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

### **Members Allowance**

#### **1 Background**

##### **1.1 Members Allowances Scheme 2023/24**

1.1.2 The Members Allowance Scheme for 2023/24 has also been considered for implementation from 2023/24. The Independent Remuneration Panel have been requested to consider the scheme and their report and recommendations are attached at Appendix 1. Members are requested to consider each of the recommendations in the report. The recommendations are:

- a) the basic allowance be unchanged (pay award not included as linked to officer pay which has not been determined yet)
- b) Special Responsibility Allowances
  - i The Assistant to Cabinet Member allowance be discontinued
  - ii The Shadow Executive members/shadow deputy allowance be discontinued
  - iii The Unity Chair allowance be discontinued
  - iv The Additional SRA allowance be discontinued
  - v The other SRAs continue at the level in the current scheme

vi No Member should be entitled to more than one SRA where it relates to internal Council business

c) No change is made to the Travel and Subsistence allowance, Dependent Carers Allowance and co-opted allowances

d) For 2023/24, the annual increase should be the percentage increase for local government officer at SCP 49.

Members are requested to consider and approve the scheme.

## 1.2 Matters arising from Members Allowances Scheme 2022/23

1.2.1 The Members Allowance scheme for 2022/23 provided an annual increase in accordance with the local government pay award. This has historically been a percentage figure, but this year it is proposed to be a specified amount to all officers. It is proposed that the amount be the percentage applicable to Spinal Column Point 49 for officers which is line with a number of GM authorities and recommended by the Panel. Members are requested to consider this matter.

1.2.2 Also, for the 2022/23 scheme, an Additional SRA is available to cover significant additional responsibilities in year requiring equal or greater time and effort as would be required of any other SRA activities. A request has been received that Cllr Sykes be granted an allowance for activity undertaken relating to Greater Manchester, regional, national wide issues, including health and cost of living issues and Cllr Hamblett be granted an allowance as an opposition lead on equality, inclusion and diversity. Members are asked to consider the request.

## 2. Consultation

2.1 A number of members have been involved in the consideration by the Panel.

## 3. Financial Implications

3.1 If Members approve any allowances to be discontinued, this will lead to a reduction in the budget required.

## 4. Legal Services Comments

4.1 The Council is required to approve a Members Allowance Scheme

## 5. Co-operative Agenda

5.1 n/a

## 6. Human Resources Comments

6.1 n/A

**7. Risk Assessments**

7.1 n/a

**8. IT Implications**

8.1 n/a

**9. Property Implications**

9.1 n/a

**10. Procurement Implications**

10.1 n/a

**11. Environmental and Health and Safety Implications**

11.1 n/a

**12. Equality, community and cohesion and crime implications**

12.1 n/a

**13. Equality Impact Assessment Completed?**

13.1 n/a

**14. Key Decision**

14.1 n/a

**15. Key Decision Reference**

15.1 n/a

**16. Background Papers**

16.1 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 not include documents which would disclose exempt or confidential information as defined by the Act:

Members Allowances file

17. **Appendices**

17.1 Appendix 1 – Independent Remuneration Panel report