
Meeting: Executive
Date: 12 January 2010
Subject: Members Allowance Scheme 2010/11
Report of: Cllr Maurice Jones , Portfolio Holder for Corporate Resources
Summary: The report sets out the situation with regard to the work being carried out by the Independent Remuneration Panel, which should culminate with recommendations at a further meeting on 21 December 2009.

Advising Officer: Clive Heaphy, Director of Corporate Resources
Contact Officer: Stephen Cooke, Electoral/Members' Services Manager
Public/Exempt: Public
Wards Affected: All
Function of: Council
Key Decision Yes
**Reason for urgency/
exemption from call-in
(if appropriate)** Not applicable

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

The provision of a fair scheme of Members' Allowances is essential to the democratic process in ensuring an equal opportunity to all to become a Councillor.

Financial:

Until the Independent Remuneration Panel has completed its review of allowances, and made recommendations for the next financial year, the financial implications are unknown.

Legal:

The Local Authorities (Members Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003

Risk Management:

None

Staffing (including Trades Unions):

None

Equalities/Human Rights:

The Scheme of Members' Allowances includes allowances for Dependants' Carers' to provide equality for any Member with caring responsibilities.

Community Safety:

None.

Sustainability:

None

Summary of Overview and Scrutiny Comments:

- Not applicable

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the Executive consider the financial implications of the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel in relation to the Scheme of Members' Allowances for the year commencing 1 April 2010.

(Note: the Panel is due to meet again on 21 December 2009 and its recommendations are not therefore available at the time of circulation of this agenda.)

<i>Reason for Recommendation(s):</i>	<i>To enable the Executive to address the financial implications of the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel to the Council in relation to the Scheme of Members' Allowances for the year commencing 1 April 2010.</i>
--------------------------------------	---

Executive Summary

Whilst the adoption of a Scheme of Members' Allowances is a matter reserved to the Council, the Executive are requested to consider the financial implications of the recommendations made by the Independent Remuneration Panel. It is anticipated that the Panel will complete its work and make the required recommendations at its meeting on 21 December 2009.

Statutory Background

1. The Local Authorities (Members Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 provide that before an authority makes or amends a scheme of allowances it shall have regard to the recommendations made by an independent remuneration panel established to make such recommendations.
2. At the meeting of the Council held on 24 September 2009 the under-mentioned persons were appointed to serve as the members of the Panel established to make recommendations to the Council concerning its Scheme of Allowances.

Person Appointed	Period of Appointment
Mrs B Heley	31 March 2012
Mr G Lambert	31 March 2013
Mr C Bell	31 March 2014

3. The Panel met on two occasions, 20 November and 7 December, but failed to complete the review. A further meeting will be held on 21 December when the Panel should finalise its recommendations for the year commencing 1 April 2010. This agenda has been printed prior to the further meeting of the Panel and a copy of the Panel's recommendations will be circulated as soon as possible prior to the Executive's meeting.

Background Papers: (open to public inspection)

None

Location of papers: Not applicable