

Meeting: COUNCIL

Agenda Item:

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Portfolio Area: Members' Services

Date: 28 FEBRUARY 2017

OFFICER REPORT – MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME 2017-2018

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1. PURPOSE

1.1 To recommend to Council a Members' Allowances Scheme for 2017-2018.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 That a Members' Allowances Scheme be agreed for 2017-2018 as set out in Appendix A, attached.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 Local authorities are required to make a Members' Allowances Scheme before the beginning of each financial year having considered a report of an Independent Remuneration Panel.

3.2 At its meeting on 24 February 2016 the Council adopted a new Members' Allowances Scheme based on the recommendations of an Independent Panel that had undertaken a comprehensive review in Autumn 2015.

3.3 The Scheme recommended is the same as that agreed by Council on 24 February 2016.

4. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED COURSE OF ACTIONS AND OTHER OPTIONS

4.1 Council is being recommended to approve a Scheme for 2017/2018 based on the latest recommendations of the Independent Panel as there has been no amendment to the political management structure of the Council upon which those recommendations were based.

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4.2 The Scheme recommended includes provision for allowances to be index linked to officer (NJC) pay awards therefore any pay award agreed would be automatically applied.

5. IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Financial Implications

The budget provision for the Members Allowances Scheme in 2017/2018, inclusive of travel and subsistence is £477,420 which is sufficient to fund the proposed Scheme.

5.2 Legal Implications

The provisions of the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 have directed the convening of the Independent Panel. The appended draft Scheme for 2017-2018 is in accord with that recommended by the Panel.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

- Report of Independent Panel –December 2015
- Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003

APPENDICES

- Appendix A - Recommended Scheme for 2017-2018