

**Meeting:** Council

**Date:** 1 March 2006

**MEMBERS ALLOWANCES SCHEME**

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**1 PURPOSE**

To make a Members Allowances Scheme for the year 1 April 2006 to 31 March 2007.

**2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

2.1 To make a Members' Allowances Scheme in the form set out in the appendix to this report.

**3 DETAILS**

3.1 Local authorities are now required to make a Members' Allowance Scheme before the beginning of each financial year whether or not the existing scheme is to be altered.

3.2 In June 2004 an independent panel made recommendations to the Full Council on a revised Members' Allowances Scheme. On 30 June 2004, the Full Council adopted the recommendations of the independent panel without amendment.

3.3 Before local authorities can amend schemes they must commission a report from an independent panel and consider their recommendations. The current Scheme may however continue in its current form, though no further indexation may be applied.

3.4 It is therefore proposed that the current Members' Allowances Scheme continues unchanged from 2005/6. Travel and subsistence allowances are fixed at the rate payable from time to time to officers.

**4 IMPLICATIONS**

**4.1 Financial Implications**

Provision has been made in the 2006/2007 draft Revenue Budget to fund the Scheme

**5 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

5.1 Review of the Scheme of Councillors' Allowances for Stevenage Borough Council  
The Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel – November 2003

5.2 A Supplementary Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel – June 2004

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

- 5.4 Stevenage Borough Council Members' Allowances Scheme 2004/5.