

Meeting: COUNCIL
Date: 25 February 2009

Agenda Item:
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OFFICER REPORT - MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME 2009-2010

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1. PURPOSE

To recommend to Council a Members' Allowances Scheme for 2009-2010.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That a Members' Allowances Scheme be agreed for 2009-2010 as set out in Appendix A, attached.

3. BACKGROUND

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

4. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED COURSE OF ACTIONS AND OTHER OPTIONS

In October 2007 an Independent Panel made recommendations to the Council on a revised Members' Allowances Scheme. The recommended Scheme was adopted on 3rd October 2007 and subsequently approved for 2008/2009. The Scheme recommended to Council for adoption for 2009/2010 is unchanged other than the application of the index linked increases to the Basic and Special Responsibility Allowances in line with the NJC national salary awards, as previously agreed.

5. IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Financial Implications

The budget provision for the Members Allowances Scheme in 2008/2009, inclusive of travel and subsistence is £488,260. A draft budget provision of £502,910 has been included for 2009/2010.

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 2009-2010 is in accord with that recommended by the Panel.

BACKGROUND

- Report of Independent Panel - August 2007**
- Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003**

APPENDICES

- Appendix A - Recommended Scheme for 2009-2010**