

Members' Allowances Review

For

Oadby and Wigston Borough Council

Report of the

Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP)

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Panel makes the following RECOMMENDATIONS:

- a) Special Responsibility Allowances (SRA) be agreed as set out in Column 2 of the following Table. Note that the £1,000 band is increased to £1,150 to retain the four distinct bandings as previously recommended.

	Col 1 Existing (£)	Col 2 Proposed (£)
Leader of the Council	10,000	10,000
Deputy Leader of the Council * halved where shared	2500*	2500*
Leader of the Opposition Group # pro rata based on the total membership of groups where applicable	2500#	2500#
Chairman of Policy, Finance & Development, Service Delivery, Development Control	3500	3500
Vice Chairman of Policy, Finance & Development, Service Delivery, Development Control	1150	1150
Chairman of Council (Mayor)	3500	3500
Vice Chairman of Council (Deputy Mayor)	1000	1150
Chairman of Licensing & Regulatory Committee	2500	2500
Vice Chairman of Licensing & Regulatory Committee	1000	1150
Member of Development Control Committee (other than Chairman or Vice Chairman)	Nil	Nil
Generic Task Group Chairman Allowance (pro rata if the Group disbands)	1000	1150
Change Management Committee Chairman	1000	1150
Community Engagement Group Chairman	1000	1150
Children and Young People Forum Chairman	1000	1150
Greening of the Borough Working Group Chairman	1000	1150
Community Safety Partnership Chairman (where it is a Member of the Council)	1000	1150
Place Shaping Working Group Chairman	1000	1150
Health and Wellbeing Board Chairman	1000	1150
Residents Forum Chairman	1000	1150
Members Standards Complaints – Adjudication Panel (up to 4 hours*, over 4 hours** per attendance)	50* or 100**	50* or 100**
Member of Licensing Panel (up to 4 hours*, over 4 hours** per attendance)	30* or 60**	30* or 60**
Member of Internal Interview Panel (up to 4 hours*, over 4 hours** per attendance)	50* or 100**	50* or 100**
Representative on Outside Body (up to 4 hours*, over 4 hours** per attendance)	30* or 60**	30* or 60**

- b) The Members Allowance Scheme included at Appendix 1b to this report be adopted, to be effective for the period 10 May 2017 until 9 May 2018.
- c) The Council note that the Panel will meet again, once the results of the ongoing review of the Council's governance structure are known, in order to consider the implications upon the Members Allowance Scheme.

INTRODUCTION

The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2001, requires local authorities to establish and maintain an Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP). The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003, placed additional responsibilities on the role of the panel.

The purpose of the Panel is to make recommendations to the authority about allowances to be paid to Elected Members. The Panel has a duty, each year, to advise the Authority on its scheme and the amounts to be paid. The Council must have regard to this advice.

Membership of the Panel

The Panel comprises of the following individuals:-

Mr Laurie Faulkner	Magistrate and retired Head of Business Development at De Montfort University
Mr David Wood	Self employed local resident
Mr John Whiting	Local resident and retired tax inspector

Process of the Review

We are pleased to note that the Council substantially adopted our previous recommendations at their meeting on 19 April 2016 with two exceptions:-

- a) To leave the allowances for Vice Chairman of the main committees, namely Policy, Finance & Development, Service Delivery and Development Control at £1,150 instead of the £1,000 we recommended. This resulted in five bands of SRA rather than the four recommended, two of which are very close to each other.
- b) That the Council decided to permit members to claim no more than two SRAs in full, whereas we had recommended 100% of the higher and 50% of the lower.

We note, too, that the Council was minded to accept the Members Allowance Scheme in its current format until 2020 unless there is any change of circumstances.

The work of the Panel has been severely restricted over the past 12 months due to the ongoing review of the Council's governance structure, which is not expected to be finalised until the Autumn. The Panel will then meet again to consider the implications upon the Members Allowance Scheme.