

CABINET MEETING – 14 MARCH 2024
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SHEET – PART I

Title of Report:

Independent Remuneration Panel and Members' Allowances Scheme 2024/2025

Author(s):

Director of Finance and Assistant Director of Law and Governance

Purpose of Report:

To present the report and recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel in order for Cabinet to make recommendations to Council in respect of the Members' Allowances Scheme for 2024/2025.

Description of Decision:

To consider the report and recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel and make appropriate recommendations to Council, in respect of the Members' Allowances Scheme for 2024/2025.

Is the decision consistent with the Budget/Policy Framework? Yes

If not, Council approval is required to change the Budget/Policy Framework

Suggested reason(s) for Decision:

The Council must make a new Scheme before the beginning of each financial year.

Alternative options to be considered and recommended to be rejected:

There are no alternative options in respect of the adoption of a Scheme for 2024/2025, as this is a statutory requirement.

Impacts analysed;

Equality **Privacy** **Sustainability** **Crime and Disorder**

Is the Decision consistent with the Council's co-operative values? Yes

Is this a "Key Decision" as defined in the Constitution? No

Is it included in the 28 day Notice of Decisions? No

INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL AND MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME – 2024/2025

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF LAW AND GOVERNANCE

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To present the report and recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel in order for Cabinet to make recommendations to Council in respect of the Members' Allowances Scheme for 2024/2025.

2. Description of decision

- 2.1 To consider the report and recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel and make appropriate recommendations to Council, in respect of the Members' Allowances Scheme for 2024/2025.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Council is required to adopt a Members' Allowances Scheme for each financial year and to do so before the beginning of each new year. It is also required to establish and maintain an Independent Remuneration Panel to make recommendations to Council about the allowances to be paid to elected members under the Scheme.
- 3.2 The Director of Finance and Assistant Director of Law and Governance have delegated authority to appoint up to six members to a "pool" from which they may convene Panels of no less than three members. Three new members have recently been recruited to the pool, however they have not yet had the opportunity to become familiar with the Council's governance arrangements and to receive information regarding the various roles and responsibilities of members. The new panel members are therefore not in a position to consider whether or not it would be appropriate to recommend any changes, in time for the Council to adopt the Scheme for 2024/2025. In the circumstances, the Panel has recommended that the Council continue with the terms of its current Scheme for the 2024/2025 year and that a detailed review be held during 2024/2025. This would provide the opportunity for the new members to receive information regarding the Council's arrangements and be in a position to consider whether or not to recommend any changes. The Panel will be able to consider recommending changes in respect of the Scheme for the following

year, 2025/2026, and there will also be scope for the Panel to consider whether to recommend any amendments to the Scheme for 2024/2025.

- 3.3 When making or amending a Scheme, the Council is required to have regard to the Panel's recommendations.

4. Reasons for decision

- 4.1 The Council must make a new Scheme before the beginning of each financial year.

5. Alternative Options

- 5.1 There are no alternative options in respect of the adoption of a Scheme for 2024/2025, as this is a statutory requirement.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 The costs of the Scheme are included within the Council's revenue budget for 2024/2025.

Background papers

Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel