

**CABINET**

**11 JANUARY 2022**

**INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL AND MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES  
SCHEME - 2022/2023**

**REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES  
AND ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF LAW AND GOVERNANCE**

**Purpose of report**

- 1.1 To present the report of the Independent Remuneration Panel on the level of members' allowances for the next financial year, in order for Cabinet to make appropriate recommendations to Council.

**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 2022 / 2023.

**Independent Remuneration Panel**

- 3.1 Each Local Authority is required to establish and maintain an Independent Remuneration Panel to make recommendations to the Council about the allowances to be paid to elected members. The members of the Panel are John Anderson CBE, Karen Straughair and Stuart Green.
- 3.2 The Council is required to renew the Members' Allowances Scheme for each financial year and to do so before the beginning of each new year. When making or amending a Scheme, the Council is required to have regard to the Panel's recommendations.
- 3.3 The Panel has considered the number and level of allowances payable to Members and its report is shown in the Appendix. The Panel has recommended that the basic allowance be increased by 2% to £8,536 with effect from 1 April 2022. As the NJC pay award for 2021/22 has not yet been confirmed, with the current offer by employers of 1.75% not having been accepted by Trades Unions the proposed increase is in line with the assumption included in the Council's medium term financial plan for the main pay award for Council staff, excluding any separate pay award increases that are given to specific groups, such as lower paid staff or Chief Officers.

**Reasons for decision**

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

## **Alternative Options**

- 5.1 There are no alternative options in respect of the adoption of a Scheme for 2022/2023, as this is a statutory requirement.

## **Financial Implications**

- 6.1 If the Panel's recommendations are approved, the additional cost in 2022/2023 of £12,554 will be met from contingencies and included within the Council's revenue budget for 2022/2023.

## **Background papers**

Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel