



**Open Report on behalf of Andrew Crookham,
Executive Director responsible for Democratic Services**

Report to:	County Council
Date:	11 December 2020
Subject:	Members' Allowances Scheme 2021/22

Summary:

The Council has to agree its Members' Allowances Scheme every year. This report presents the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) convened in November 2020 and proposes no changes to the Scheme of Members' Allowances for 2021/22 other than indexation in accordance with the Scheme.

Recommendation(s):

1. To note the IRP recommendations.
2. To agree that the Scheme of Members' Allowances for 2021/22 be the same as the Scheme of Members Allowances for 2020/21 subject only to indexation in accordance with the Scheme.

1. Background

The County Council sets a Scheme of Members' Allowances and expenses in accordance with the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 ('the 2003 Regulations') and other relevant legislation.

The 2003 Regulations require that an Independent Review Panel (IRP) is convened to make recommendations to the Council. The Council is required to consider any IRP recommendations before setting a scheme but is not required to accept their recommendations.

The IRP was convened in November 2020 and recommended that no changes to the scheme be made, save for the previously agreed annual increase in line with the average % increase in pay for employees covered by the National Joint Council for Local Government Services for the last 12 months (usually referred to as 'Green Book' employees).

The increase for this year amounts to 2.75%.

2. Conclusion

The Council is required to convene the IRP and has done so. The IRP has made recommendations that the Council must take into account when setting a Scheme of Members' Allowances.

3. Legal Comments:

Regulation 10 of the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 requires the Council to make a Scheme of Members Allowances prior to April 1 in every year.

Before making such a Scheme the Council must have regard to the recommendations made in relation to the Scheme by the Independent Remuneration Panel.

Approval of the Scheme of Members' Allowances is reserved to full Council.

4. Resource Comments:

The costs arising from acceptance of the recommendations in this report can be funded from within the existing budget provision.

5. Consultation

a) Has Local Member Been Consulted?

n/a

b) Has Executive Councillor Been Consulted?

n/a

c) Scrutiny Comments

n/a

d) Risks and Impact Analysis

n/a

6. Background Papers

Document name	Where it can be viewed
Report to Council 11 December, 2019 entitled Members' Allowances Scheme 2020/21	Democratic Services and Council website
Members' Allowances Scheme 2020/21	Democratic Services and Council website

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