

Meeting of the Full Council
Meeting to be held on Thursday, 27 February 2020

Report submitted by: Head of Legal and Democratic Services

Part A

Electoral Divisions affected:
None;

Members' Allowance Scheme 2020/21
(Appendix 'A' refers)

Contact for further information:
Debra Jones, Tel: (01772) 537996, Democratic Services Officer,
debra.jones@lancashire.gov.uk

Executive Summary

This reports sets out the proposed Members' Allowance Scheme for 2020/21.

Recommendation

Full Council is asked to approve the 2020/21 Members' Allowance Scheme, as presented at Appendix 'A'.

Background and Advice

The county council is required to approve its Members' Allowance Scheme before the beginning of each financial year. The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 require the county council to have regard to the recommendations of its Independent Remuneration Panel before making or amending the Members' Allowance Scheme. A meeting of the Panel to consider the Members' Allowance Scheme and make recommendations on any changes to the Full Council would normally take place prior to this meeting. However, the 2003 Regulations provide that "a scheme may make provision for an annual adjustment of allowances by reference to such an index as may be specified by the County Council and where the only change made to a scheme in any year is that effected by such an annual adjustment in accordance with such an index, the scheme shall be deemed not to have been amended". The fact that the existing Members' Allowance Scheme provides for an annual adjustment of allowances in accordance with specified indices (as shown below) and given that no other changes are proposed, the Full Council can approve a Scheme for 2020/21 without a meeting of the panel having to be convened.

	Allowance	Index
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic Allowance • Special Responsibility Allowance • Carers/Dependents • Council's Chairman/Vice Chairman 	Local Government National Pay Award for officers
	Travel:	
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overnight Accommodation • Travel Abroad 	Consumer Price Index (as of the percentage published in November of the preceding year)
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motor Car • Motor Cycles • Bicycles 	To be revised in accordance with the maximum for Income Tax purposes as defined by HMRC

Attached at Appendix 'A' is the proposed Members' Allowance Scheme for 2020/21. The Full Council will note that the allowances mentioned at 1. above have not been updated as the employee pay settlement for 2020/21 has yet to be determined. The 2020/21 allowances will remain effective as from 1 April 2020 and until the annual pay award has been settled. The allowances mentioned at 2. above have been increased by 1.5%, in line with the Consumer Price Index (as of November 2019), but the allowances mentioned at 3. above remain unchanged as the HMRC rates have not changed from 2019/20.

Consultations

N/A

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

No significant risks have been identified.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
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None

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A