

Meeting of the Full Council Meeting to be held on Thursday, 23 February 2023

Report submitted by: Director of Corporate Services

Part A

Electoral Division affected: None;

Corporate Priorities: N/A;

Members' Allowance Scheme 2023/24

(Appendix 'A' refers)

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Brief Summary

This report sets out the proposed Members' Allowance Scheme for 2023/24.

Recommendation

Full Council is asked to approve the 2023/24 Members' Allowance Scheme, as presented at Appendix 'A'.

Detail

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 affected by such an annual adjustment in accordance with such an index, the scheme shall be deemed not to have been amended". 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 2023/24 without a meeting of the Independent Remuneration Panel having to be convened.

	Allowance	Index
1	 Basic Allowance Special Responsibility Allowance Carers/Dependents Council's Chairman/Vice Chairman 	Local Government National Pay Award for officers
	Travel:	
2	Overnight AccommodationTravel Abroad	Consumer Price Index (as of the percentage published in November of the preceding year)
3	Motor CarMotor CyclesBicycles	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 2023/24.

The Full Council will note that the allowances mentioned at 1. above have not been uprated as the employee pay settlement for 2023/24 has yet to be determined. Therefore 2022/23 allowances will remain effective until the annual pay award has been settled. Once this is confirmed, the increase will be backdated to 1 April 2023.

The allowances mentioned at 2. above have been increased by 10.7%, in line with the Consumer Price Index (as of November 2022), but the allowances mentioned at 3. above remain unchanged as the HMRC rates have not changed from 2022/23.

Consultations

N/A

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Financial

The costs of the Members' Allowance Scheme will be funded from the 2023/24 Members' budget.

Risk management

No significant risks have been identified.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 List of Background Papers

Paper

Date

Contact/Tel

None

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A

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