



**COUNCIL (ANNUAL MEETING)**

**14<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2019**

**AGENDA ITEM (11)**

**REVIEW OF MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES 2019/20**

<b>Accountable Members</b>	Council
<b>Accountable Officer</b>	Nigel Adams Head of Paid Service 01285 623202 nigel.adams@cotswold.gov.uk

<b>Purpose of Report</b>	To consider the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel following its review of Members' Allowances.
<b>Recommendations</b>	<b>That the Council considers the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel in relation to 2019/20 and beyond.</b>
<b>Reasons for Recommendations</b>	The Independent Remuneration Panel reports to the Council on a scheme for Members' Allowances. In undertaking its work, the Panel is not fettered by any financial constraints or otherwise imposed by the Council, and is not advised either prior to, during or after its deliberations of the financial provision made by the Council in respect of Members' Allowances.

<b>Wards Affected</b>	N/A
<b>Key Decision</b>	No
<b>Recommendation to Council</b>	N/A

<b>Financial Implications</b>	<p>The financial implications of the Panel's recommendations for 2019/20 are as follows:-</p> <p>A. <u>2019/20 - based on a Basic Allowance of £5,000 per Member per annum</u></p> <p>(i) the additional cost of the proposed increase in the Basic Allowance would be £34,000;</p> <p>(ii) if the Panel's recommended increase in the Basic Allowance was adopted, and the two changes to SRA multipliers, this would also give rise to an increase in the overall cost of Special Responsibility Allowances (SRAs) of £21,000;</p>
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	<p>(iii) it is difficult to establish the additional mileage costs that might be claimed in respect of attendance at parish/town council meetings.</p> <p>B. <u>2019/20 - based on a Basic Allowance of £5,500 per Member per annum</u></p> <p>(i) the additional cost of the proposed increase in the Basic Allowance would be £51,000;</p> <p>(ii) if the Panel's recommended increase in the Basic Allowance was adopted, and the two changes to SRA multipliers, this would also give rise to an increase in the overall cost of Special Responsibility Allowances (SRAs) of £34,000;</p> <p>(iii) it is difficult to establish the additional mileage costs that might be claimed in respect of attendance at parish/town council meetings.</p> <p>We would seek to meet these additional costs from existing budgets (which have traditionally shown varying degrees of underspend).</p>
<b>Legal and Human Rights Implications</b>	The Local Government Act 2000, and subsequent Regulations, requires Councils to establish and maintain an Independent Remuneration Panel which will broadly have the functions of providing an authority with advice on its allowances scheme, the amounts to be paid and to whom. The Council must have regard to the Panel's recommendations when determining its Allowances Scheme.
<b>Environmental and Sustainability Implications</b>	None
<b>Human Resource Implications</b>	None
<b>Key Risks</b>	None
<b>Equalities Impact Assessment</b>	<p>Remuneration of Members should be set at a level such that no individual or sector of the community is discouraged from serving as a councillor.</p> <p>In addition, allowances schemes should be designed to reflect the respective responsibilities and/or workloads of members.</p>
<b>Related Decisions</b>	<p>Various - Approval of Schemes of Allowances Council, 28<sup>th</sup> September 2018 - Deferral of scheme approval for 2019/20 to this meeting</p>
<b>Background Documents</b>	None
<b>Appendices</b>	<b>ANNEX A</b> - Report and Appendices presented to September 2018 Meeting of the Council

	<b>ANNEX 'B'</b> - Minute Extract - Council, September 2018 <b>ANNEX 'C'</b> - Panel report <b>ANNEX 'C'</b> - Comparator Information
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<b>Performance Management Follow Up</b>	(i) Implement Council decision(s). (ii) Advertise/publicise new Scheme.
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**Background Information**

1. In accordance with the provisions of the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003, an Independent Remuneration Panel has reviewed the Council's current Member Allowances Scheme.
2. The Panel's findings were presented to the Council Meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2018 for consideration. However, Members deferred a decision at that time; and asked the new Council, at this Meeting, to consider and determine a new scheme.
3. Various background documents are attached as Annexes to this report, to aid Members in their deliberations.
4. The Panel Chair, Jane Winstanley, hopes to be present at the Council Meeting.

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