
REPORT TO:	COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM: 10
DATE OF MEETING:	2ND JULY 2015	CATEGORY: DELEGATED
REPORT FROM:	CHIEF EXECUTIVE	OPEN PARAGRAPH NO: N/A
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	ARDIP KAUR (595715) Ardip.Kaur@south-derbys.gov.uk	DOC:
SUBJECT:	INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL	REF:
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	ALL	

1.0 Recommendations

- 1.1 That Dr Declan Hall be appointed Chairman of the Independent Remuneration Panel to make recommendations to the Council on Members' Allowances.
- 1.2 That the Chief Executive be authorised to appoint two further members from the local community to serve on the Panel.
- 1.3 That the Members of the Panel be paid any agreed fees and expenses incurred by them in carrying out their duties.
- 1.4 That the Terms of Reference for the Panel, as detailed in the report, be approved.

2.0 Purpose of Report

- 2.1 To consider arrangements for an Independent Remuneration Panel to make recommendations to the Council on Members' Allowances.

3.0 Detail

- 3.1 The Council is required to undertake a review of its Members' Allowances scheme by an Independent Remuneration Panel under the four year rule, as required by The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003.
- 3.2 An Independent Remuneration Panel has previously met in 2001, 2003, 2007 and 2011 to make recommendations to the Council on Members' Allowances. The Panels in 2003, 2007 and 2011 were chaired by Dr Declan Hall, a former lecturer in the topic at Birmingham University, who produced comprehensive reports on all occasions following a series of interviews with Members and Officers. He was assisted by two members of the local community to achieve a degree of local accountability and this approach is again recommended to Members, with the two appointments delegated to the Chief Executive.

3.3 It is felt appropriate to convene the Panel at this time in order that a report on the Panel's recommendations can be considered by Full Council following a new Council.

3.4 It is recommended that the following Terms of Reference be given to the Panel:-

- To make recommendations on the amount of Basic Allowance that should be payable to Members and the expenses it includes;
- To make recommendations on the categories of Members who should receive a Special Responsibility Allowance and the amount of such an allowance;
- To make recommendations on the amount of Co-optees allowances, where applicable;
- To make recommendations on travel and subsistence allowances;
- To make recommendations on the amount of Childcare and Dependent Carers' Allowances;
- To make recommendations on whether the allowances should continue to be adjusted in line with the average pay increases negotiated through the National Joint Committee for Local Government Employees or with reference to any other index or none;
- To make recommendations on the implementation date for the new Scheme of Allowances;
- To make recommendations on the Civic Allowances;
- To make recommendations on additional expenses received by Members;
- To make recommendations on any other matters which the Panel considers necessary.

4.0 Financial Implications

4.1 The expenses of the Independent Remuneration Panel will need to be met by the Council, for which appropriate budgetary provision has been made.

5.0 Corporate Implications

5.1 The Council will be complying with the provisions of The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003.

6.0 Community Implications

6.1 None.

7.0 Background Papers

The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003