
REPORT TO:	COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM: 17
DATE OF MEETING:	20TH JANUARY 2011	CATEGORY: DELEGATED
REPORT FROM:	CHIEF EXECUTIVE	OPEN PARAGRAPH NO: N/A
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	ANDREA McCASKIE (595831)	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 South Derbyshire Partnership 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 and 2007 to make recommendations to the Council on Members' Allowances. The Panels in 2003 and 2007 were both chaired by Dr Declan Hall, a former lecturer in the topic at Birmingham University, who produced comprehensive reports on both occasions following a series of interviews with Members and Officers. He was assisted by two members of the South Derbyshire Local Strategic Partnership (now the South Derbyshire Partnership) 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 prior to the new civic year. Provisional arrangements have been made for the Panel to meet on two days during the week commencing 28th February 2011. On this basis, the various allowances recommended will be known to all prospective councillors prior to the District Council Elections on 5th May 2011.

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

- To make recommendations on the allowances currently payable under the Council's Members' Allowances Scheme;
- To make recommendations on any other allowances which the Panel considers should be payable under the Scheme;
- 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