

PART 61

MEMBERS ALLOWANCES SCHEME...

Approved By Annual Council 23 May

2007..... 2

PART 6

Members' Allowances Scheme

Following the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel to Annual Council on 23 May 2007 the Council agreed the following Scheme:

That the Scheme commence on 1 June 2007 until Annual Council in 2010, to be reviewed where appropriate or on request in the intervening years.

That the basic Members' Allowance be increased annually in accordance with the agreed Council employee annual increase, this to be reviewed before the date of Annual Council in 2010.

That the Basic Allowance, Special Responsibility Allowances and other Allowances be set out in the Scheme as suggested in the table and paragraphs below:

Position	Index	Explanatory Note	Amount £
All Members of the Council		BASIC ALLOWANCE	£8,500
All positions set out below		SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY ALLOWANCE (SRA)	
Leader	100%	Fixed point for the SRAs where indicated, to be set at 3 times the basic members allowance	£25,500
Deputy Leader	65%		16,575
Main Opposition Leader	50%		12,750
Deputy Main Opposition Leader	20%		5,100
Executive Member with Portfolios	50%		12,750
Executive Member without Portfolio	20%		5,100
Chairs of : Licensing, Planning, Overview and Scrutiny Management Board, Performance and Value for Money Board and Project Board	30%		7,650
Project Conveners	20%		5,100
Community Champions	15%	Base index for single ward, for two wards multiplied x1.5, for three	3,825

		wards multiplied x1.75	5,737
			6,694
Shadow Executive Members and Additional SRAs	5%		1,275
Minority Opposition Party Leader	10%		2,550
Vice Chairs of Planning, Licensing, Overview and Scrutiny Management Board, Performance and Value for Money Board and Audit Committee	6.5%		1,657
Co-opted/ Independent Members of Audit and Standards Committees	n/a		£350
Chair of Audit and Standards Committees	n/a		£600
Refreshment Allowance n- (such allowances to be claimed within 6 months by the person to whom they are payable)		Subsistence when absent from normal place of residence	
		Breakfast	£5-00
		Lunch	£8-00
		Evening Meal	£12-00
Mileage allowance		Periods in excess of 25 hours	£25-00 40p/mile

That in view of the additional workload arising from the 25 year PFI contract for the disposal of the conurbations waste, the Council's representative on the Waste Disposal Authority be paid an additional hourly rate of £15 with a maximum of two hours preparation time per meeting, in relation to any work carried out on the procurement process.

Carer's Allowance

The Council will make payments for the reimbursement of the care of dependent relatives living with a Councillor.

For the purpose of the Scheme a dependent relative is defined as:-

- Children under the age of 15 years;
- Elderly relatives requiring full-time care;
- Relatives with disabilities who require full-time care.

Councillors claiming the allowance shall provide medical or social work or other evidence that care is required for the purposes of audit as requested.

The allowance shall not be payable in respect of care provided by a member of the Councillor's immediate family or household.

The carer's allowance may be paid to Councillors undertaking the following duties:-

- Attendance at a meeting of the Authority; a Committee or sub-committee of the Authority; any body to which the council has nominated him/her as the Council's representative.
- Any meeting to which Members of more than one political group have been invited.
- Attendance on a training development course for the purpose of fulfilling the duties of an Elected Member of the Authority.

Carer's allowance will be capped at a maximum of 7½ hours in any week. The hourly rate this year being £5.00 giving a maximum claim per week of £37.50. Hours may be calculated from the time of leaving home to the time of returning home followed attendance on Council business as detailed above.

Should a Member wish to appeal should a claim be refused this will be referred to the Standards Committee for decision.

Local Government Pension Scheme

With effect from 1st July 2004 all eligible Elected members are entitled to join the Local Government Pension Scheme. Basic and Special Responsibility Allowances to which the Member is entitled will be eligible in respect of the Pension Scheme contributions payable by the Member or the Council.

A Member may in writing to the Chief Executive elect to forego their entitlement or any part of their entitlement to allowances.