

## DECISION ITEM

REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
RESOURCES DIRECTORATE	COUNCIL	19 OCTOBER 2020	11
<b>MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES</b>			

### PUBLIC ITEM

This item is for consideration in the public part of the meeting.

### SUMMARY

The Independent Remuneration Panel has agreed a recommendation for councillors' allowances for the financial year 2021-22. The recommendation is detailed below. The report asks members to consider the recommendation and adopt if appropriate.

### RECOMMENDATION

To adopt the following recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel with effect from 1 April 2021:

- I. No increase to the level of basic allowance and special responsibility allowances but to maintain them as follows:
  - Basic allowance – £4,000
  - Leader of the Council – £10,625
  - Deputy Leader – £3,190
  - Chairmen of Programme Committees – £4,250
  - Vice-Chairman of above – £2,125
  - Chairman of Audit and Standards – £3,450
  - Vice- Chairman of Audit and Standards – £1,725
  - Chairmen of Public Protection and Licensing – £1,725
  - Vice-Chairmen of above – £865
  - Chairman of Member Development Steering Group – £2,125
  - Leader of each political group – £34 a member
- II. Maintain the present level of travel and subsistence allowances and dependent carers' allowance for 2021 – 22.
- III. To maintain the allowance paid to the three Independent Persons at £800 per person per annum, with the cost to be shared equally with Blackpool.
- IV. To increase the Deputy Mayor's allowance from £1,842 to £2,394 with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021
- V. Approve an unfunded revenue budget increase in respect of the above changes to Deputy Mayor's Allowances in the sum of £552 per annum from 2021/22 onwards.

### SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS DECISIONS

Council considers recommendations from the Independent Remuneration Panel each year. Last municipal year, the recommendations were reported to the council 14 October 2019. The decision of the council at that meeting was to increase the level of allowances.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES	
Spending your money in the most efficient way to achieve excellent services ( <b>Value for Money</b> )	√
Delivering the services that customers expect of an excellent council ( <b>Clean and Green</b> )	
Working with all partners ( <b>Vibrant Economy</b> )	
To make sure Fylde continues to be one of the most desirable places to live ( <b>A Great Place to Live</b> )	
Promoting Fylde as a great destination to visit ( <b>A Great Place to Visit</b> )	

## REPORT

1. The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 provide for local authorities to establish and maintain an independent remuneration panel. The purpose of the panel is to make recommendations to the council about the allowances to be paid to elected members.
2. The council must have regard to the recommendations of the panel.
3. Local authorities must include in their scheme of allowances a basic allowance, payable to all members, and may include provision for the payment of special responsibility allowances and a dependants' carers' allowance. The Regulations allow the inclusion of a travel and subsistence and a co-optees' allowance within an allowances scheme. These allowances are discretionary.
4. The independent panel has met and has made recommendations concerning the council's scheme.
5. The Panel being mindful of the fact that allowances were increased last year and the council has suffered loss of income and unforeseen budget pressures this year, it was considered prudent to not recommend an increase for 2021/22
6. The Panel were asked to provide an opinion on the level of the Deputy Mayor's allowances. In reaching their view the Panel took into consideration the level of attendance at events and support to fundraising efforts the Deputy Mayor provides to the Mayor. Their view was to increase the Deputy Mayor's allowance by 30% to £2394 per annum.
7. Members are asked to consider the two documents below:
  - Appendix 1: [The report to the independent panel](#); and
  - Appendix 2: [A note of the panel's deliberations and recommendations](#).

IMPLICATIONS	
Finance	The Council's base revenue budget includes recurring provision of £271.352 per annum for the member's allowance scheme. The effect of the change proposed to the Mayoral budget would be an increase in the annual cost of Allowances in the civic budget of £552 per annum from 2021/22 onwards.
Legal	Payment of members' allowances and the amount of such allowances is discretionary. However, the council is obliged to "have regard" to the recommendations of the independent panel.
Community Safety	None
Human Rights and Equalities	None
Sustainability and Environmental Impact	None
Health & Safety and Risk Management	None

LEAD AUTHOR	CONTACT DETAILS	DATE
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BACKGROUND PAPERS		
Name of document	Date	Where available for inspection
Report to remuneration panel	September 2020	Town Hall, Lytham St Annes
Notes of remuneration panel meeting	September 2020	Town Hall, Lytham St Annes

#### Attached Documents

Appendix 1: The report to the independent panel

Appendix 2: A note of the panel's deliberations and recommendations