

COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM No. 15(a)
30 JANUARY 2013	PUBLIC REPORT

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**REVIEW OF PETERBOROUGH CITY COUNCIL'S MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME –
REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES PANEL**

R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S	
FROM : Independent Members' Allowances Panel	Deadline date : N/A
<p>Council is requested to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Note the recommendations of the Independent Members' Allowances Panel as summarised in paragraph 3 below; and 2. Determine the action it wishes to take in response to the recommendations contained within the report. 	

1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

- 1.1 The Council has a statutory requirement to establish and maintain an Independent Members' Allowances Panel, which will broadly have the functions of providing the local authority with advice on its scheme and the amounts to be paid. Local authorities must have regard to this advice.
- 1.2 The Panel met on two occasions during 2012 in order to review the current Members' Allowances scheme. Their report, which is attached at Appendix A, sets out their findings and recommendations.
- 1.3 All Members of the Council were invited to make representations to the Panel either in writing or in person.

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 2.1 To consider the recommendations of the Independent Members' Allowances Panel following its review of the Council's current Members' Allowances scheme.
- 2.2 The Council must 'have regard' to the Panel's recommendations but may then determine what action it wishes to take

3. RECOMMENDATIONS ARISING FROM THE REVIEW

3.1 The Panel recommends:

3.2 Basic Allowance

- That the current Basic Allowance, payable to all Members, should be increased from £7165.95 to £9300.00 per annum.
- That no changes be made to the telephone allowance or travel and subsistence elements of the scheme.

3.3 Special Responsibility Allowance (SRA)

- That Members continue to be restricted to one SRA.
- That the Leader's SRA remains at the current multiple of the Basic Allowance.
- That the Deputy Leader's SRA should be paid at the rate of 66.67% of the Leader's SRA to recognise the role of Deputy in addition to the post holder's Cabinet responsibility.
- That Cabinet members receive an SRA which is 50% of that paid to the Leader of the Council.
- That Cabinet Advisors receive an SRA which is 25% of the Leader's SRA.
- That the Chairmen of Regulatory Committees (Planning, Licensing and Audit) receive an SRA which is 25% of the Leader's SRA.
- That the Chairman of the Employment Committee receives an SRA which is 6.25% of the Leader's SRA.
- That the SRAs payable to Chairmen of Scrutiny Commissions and Committees be paid at 25% of the Leader's allowance.
- That the SRAs paid to Chairmen of Neighbourhood Committees be discontinued.

3.4 Police and Crime Panel

- That no SRA payment be recommended in respect of Members who sit on this newly formed Panel.

4. CONSULTATION

4.1 All Members were invited to make written representation to the Panel and offered the opportunity to address the Panel in person. The Panel has considered all submissions in detail.

5. IMPLICATIONS

5.1 **Legal** - The legal implications are referred to within the report.

5.2 **Finance** – The Panel's proposals, if accepted, would result in an additional cost of £104,010 to the Council. The effect of these recommendations are set out in Appendix B. The budget for 2013/14 has not yet been determined.

6. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

None.