

Report of Head of Civic & Member Support

Report to City Solicitor

Date: 21st January 2014

Subject: Members' Allowance Scheme

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

1. The current Members' Allowance Scheme needs to be updated to reflect the increase in allowance values applied in October 2013.

Recommendations

2. That the current Members' Allowance Scheme be updated to reflect the increase in allowance rates.

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To highlight the changes applied to the currently published Members' Allowance Scheme.

2 Background information

- 2.1 Leeds City Council, in exercise of the powers conferred by the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003, has implemented an Allowance Scheme after having regard to reports of the Independent Remuneration Panel.
- 2.2 This Scheme is cited as the Leeds City Council Members' Allowances Scheme, and has effect from the date approved by a meeting of Full Council.
- 2.3 The current scheme contains a paragraph (5.1) that deals with the annual updating of the allowances:

"The amounts referred to in paragraphs 3, 4 and 6 shall not be increased until October 2012, when they will be increased yearly on 1 October in line with the headline pay increase negotiated through the National Joint Committee for Local Government Employees (or equivalent). This annual update shall continue until June 2016 or until an earlier review by the Independent Remuneration Panel."

3 Main issues

- 3.1 In line with Para 5.1 of the Members' Allowance Scheme, the allowances were increased with an effective date of 1st October 2013.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

- 4.1.1 The Leader of Council was consulted prior to the increase being applied

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

- 4.2.1 No Impact

4.3 Council policies and City Priorities

- 4.3.1 N/A

4.4 Resources and value for money

- 4.4.1 N/A

4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

4.5.1 None

4.6 Risk Management

4.6.1 N/A

5 Conclusions

5.1 The current Members' Allowance Scheme needs to be updated to reflect the increase in allowance values applied in October 2013.

6 Recommendations

6.1 2. That the current Members' Allowance Scheme be updated to reflect the increase in allowance rates

7 Background documents¹

7.1 Leeds Members' Allowance Scheme

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.