
Subject: MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME 2016/17

Meeting and Date: Council – 2 March 2016

Report of: Director of Governance

Classification: UNRESTRICTED

Purpose of the report: To make the Members' Allowances Scheme for 2016/17.

Recommendation: To make the Members' Allowances Scheme for 2016/17.

1. Summary

Under Regulation 10 of the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003/1021 the Council is required to make a scheme for the payment of allowances to Members.

2. Introduction and Background

- 2.1 This report does not seek to increase the levels of allowances payable to Members. However, the Council is still required to make its scheme annually and in making any Scheme the Council must give consideration to the non-binding levels of allowances recommended by the East Kent Joint Independent Remuneration Panel.

3. Identification of Options

- 3.1 Option 1: To make the Members' Allowance Scheme as set out in Appendix 1 without change.
- 3.2 Option 2: To make the Members' Allowance Scheme set out in Appendix 1 with amendments.

4. Evaluation of Options

- 4.1 Option 1 is the preferred option. This reconfirms the existing levels of allowances for 2016/17.
- 4.2 Option 2 is not recommended as the proposed Members' Allowance Scheme set out in Appendix 1 is cost neutral and no provisions for increasing the Members' Allowances Scheme has been made in the budget.
- 4.3 The East Kent Joint Independent Remuneration Panel will meet on 29 February 2016 to consider the Members' Allowance Scheme and make recommendations. These will be circulated separately.

5. Resource Implications

- 5.1 There are no resource implications as the level of allowances for councillors remains unchanged. If Members wish to change the Members' Allowance Scheme it is recommended that this be subject to a further report setting out the financial implications of the changes.

6. Corporate Implications

- 6.1 The Council is required to make arrangements for a Members' Allowance Scheme.

7. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Proposed Members' Allowance Scheme 2016/17

Appendix 2 – East Kent Joint Independent Remuneration Panel Recommendations
(to follow).

8. **Background Papers**

Constitution of the Council – Issue 19(c)

Contact Officer: Rebecca Brough, Team Leader – Democratic Support, 01304 872304