

Report of the Deputy Chief Executive

REVIEW OF MEMBER ALLOWANCES1. Purpose of report

To inform the Panel of the proposed amendments to the Member's allowances based on the Cabinet governance model that was adopted May 2022.

2. Recommendation

The Independent Remuneration Panel is asked to CONSIDER the updated allowances proposed for the roles as attached in appendix 2 and to remove the Committees and allowances no longer required and RECOMMEND accordingly.

3. Detail

The Cabinet Model of governance arrangements was formally adopted at full Council on 11 May 2022. It was agreed by the Independent Remuneration Panel to revisit the Member's allowances later in the year to ensure they met with the approved model of governance and to consider any discrepancies arising from the changes. The report is included at appendix 1.

Suggestions to rectify these anomalies include:

- Increasing the allowances of the Chairs of Planning and Licensing Committee in line with that of a Cabinet Member with a portfolio.
- Increasing the Vice Chair's allowance for Planning, Licensing and Governance, Audit and Standards Committee.
- Increasing the allowance for the Chair of Governance, Audit and Standards Committee in line with a Cabinet Member with no portfolio.
- Removing the allowances for the Members of the Licensing Committee with the exception of Chair and Vice Chair.
- Removing the separate Scrutiny Committees only one Overview and Scrutiny Committee with a Chair and two Vice Chairs were appointed.
- Introduce allowances for the Chair and Vice Chair of the working groups appointed from Overview and Scrutiny Committee. These roles are suggested to rotate depending on the topics chosen.
- Removing the Policy Advisory Committee.
- Introduce an allowance for the Chair and Vice Chair of the Policy Advisory Working Group that was appointed at Full Council 13 July 2022.
- Increasing the allowance for Leader of the Opposition in line with that of a Cabinet Member without a portfolio.
- Introduce a new allowance for the Deputy Leader of the Opposition
- Remove the two Business Manager roles and allowances.
- Increase the Outside Bodies allowance for the Police and Crime Panel in line with the Health Lead and Chair of Broxtowe Partnership Health Task Group.

The discrepancies to the Member allowances budget will be cost neutral based on the suggestions identified.

It should be noted that it was resolved to increase the Member's allowances at Full Council on 2 March 2022 at an increased cost of approximately £5619.00 per annum in line with the formally adopted Cabinet model of governance arrangements at Full Council May 2022. Appendix 2 reflects the current allowances and the changes to the allowances are in bold.

4. Financial implications

The comments of the Head of Finance Services were as follows:

The outcome of this review of Members Allowances is broadly cost neutral. The full impact on the Members Allowances budget for both the 2022/23 (revised) and 2023/24 (base) financial years will be incorporated into the budget setting process.

5. Legal Implications

The comments of the Head of Legal Services were as follows:

Under Regulation 4 of the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 (the Regulations), the Council has the powers to make a scheme to provide for the payment of a basic allowance and any other allowance permitted by the Regulations. 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.

6. Human Resources Implications

N/A.

7. Union Comments

Nil.

8. Data Protection Compliance Implications

Nil.

9. Equality Impact Assessment

N/A.