

Report of the Interim Deputy Chief Executive

Pay Award and Review of Allowances

1. Purpose of Report

To inform the Council of the recommendations from the Independent Remuneration Panel of the proposed pay allowance rates for Members for 2026/27 based on the Cabinet governance model.

2. Recommendation

The Council is asked to RESOLVE that:

- 1. £600 be added to the basic allowance for 2026/27.**
- 2. Members' Allowances be increased by 3% for 2026/27.**

3. Detail

At its meeting on 28 January 2026 the Independent Remuneration Panel conducted a review of allowances and discussed previously considered comparisons of figures for allowances across Nottinghamshire.

The Panel noted the figures for Members' allowances including the proposed increase of 3% for the financial year 2026/27. The Panel discussed the previous year's decision to recommend to full Council that £600 be added to the basic allowance. It was recognised that although this was accepted, the Council remained the payer of the lowest basic allowance. Discussion ensued that a further increase of £600 would move the Council away from the lowest comparative allowance.

In accordance with the Scheme of Members' Allowances approved by the Panel in September 2015, Member allowance rates should increase in line with any employee pay award. A proposed increase of 3% was applied and the proposed new allowance rates are shown in the **Appendix**. It was further stated that an agreement to raise allowances by a fixed 3% would remove any uncertainty around the percentage raise in the employee pay award.

4. Financial Implications

The comments from the Interim Deputy Chief Executive were as follows:

For comparative purposes, the proposed allowances with a 3% increase is shown in the **Appendix**. The full impact of the increase, should it be accepted, would be around £9,900 per annum from 2026/27.

Should the increase of £600 to the basic allowance be accepted the cost per annum from 2026/27 would be a further £26,400. If approved, the additional costs would be funded directly from General Fund Reserve balances.

5. Legal Implications

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

It is a requirement of the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 that an Independent Panel on Members' Allowances is arranged to consider issues and put forward recommendations for the Council to consider. It is for the Council to decide on the Members' Allowances Scheme that is put in place, having regard to the Panel's recommendations. Allowances are paid under the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 the Local Government Acts 1972 and 2000 and the Local Authorities Members Allowances Regulations 2003.

6. Human Resources Implications

There were no comments from the Human Resources Manager.

7. Union Comments

Not applicable.

8. Climate Change Implications

Not applicable.

9. Data Protection Compliance Implications

This report does not contain any OFFICIAL(SENSITIVE) information and there are no Data Protection issues in relation to this report.

10. Equality Impact Assessment

As this is not a change to policy or a new policy an equality impact assessment not required.

11. Background Papers

Nil.

Appendix

Revised Members' allowances following proposed 3% increase

	<u>No. Applying</u>	<u>Current Rate</u> £	<u>Proposed Rates</u> (£)
Basic Allowance	44	4,767	4,910
<u>Special Responsibility Allowances:</u>			
- Leader	1	15,301	15,760
- Deputy Leader	1	6,764	6,967
<u>Cabinet Members</u>			
- Leader/Chair	1	5,260	5,418
- Deputy Leader/Vice Chair	1	5,260	5,418
- Portfolio Holder Housing	1	5,260	5,418
- Portfolio/Finance	1	5,260	5,418
- Portfolio Holder Leisure and Health	1	5,260	5,418
- Portfolio/Environment	1	5,260	5,418
- Portfolio/Jobs and Economy	1	5,260	5,418
- Portfolio/Community Safety	1	5,260	5,418
- Deputy Portfolio Holder	1	4,409	4,541
- Member Without Portfolio	3	3,439	3,542
<u>Scrutiny Chairs</u>			
- Overview and Scrutiny Chair	1	5,260	5,418
- Vice Chair	2	869	895
<u>Overview and Scrutiny Working Groups*</u>			
- Chair	1	310	319
- Vice Chair	1	103	106

	<u>No. Applying</u>	<u>Current Rate</u> £	<u>Proposed Rates</u> (£)
*Payment to be made as appointed to the Working Group from Overview and Scrutiny Committee on a rotating basis.			
<u>Policy Advisory Working Group</u>			
- Chair	1	3,439	3,542
- Vice Chair	1	869	895
<u>Quasi-Judicial Committees, Board etc.</u>			
- Chair:			
o Planning	1	5,260	5,418
o Licensing Committee	1	5,260	5,418
o Governance, Audit and Standards	1	3,439	3,542
- Vice Chair:			
o Planning	1	869	895
o Licensing Committee	1	869	895
o Governance, Audit and Standards	1	869	895
- Independent Person	2	1,503	1,548
<u>Political Groups – Additional Allowance</u>			
- Leader of Opposition	1	3,439	3,542
- Business Manager	5	333	345
- Deputy Leader of Opposition	1	869	895
<u>Civic</u>			
- Mayor	1	5,260	5,418
- Deputy Mayor	1	1,503	1,548
<u>Outside Bodies</u>			
- Health Lead	1	1,223	1,260
- Chair of Broxtowe Partnership Health Task Group	1	1,223	1,260
- Police and Crime Panel	1	1,223	1,260