

**MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME 2020/21**

**COUNCIL**  
**22 JULY 2020**

**CLASSIFICATION:**  
**OPEN**

**WARD(S) AFFECTED**  
**ALL WARDS**

**TIM SHIELDS, CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

## **1. SUMMARY**

- 1.1 Each year the Council is legally required to consider and agree a Members' Allowances Scheme.
- 1.2 The Council is part of joint arrangements provided by London Council's Independent Remuneration Panel. The Council has Sir Rodney Brooke CBE DL acting as independent adviser on Members' Allowances. (Sir Rodney Brooke is also Chair of London Councils Independent Remuneration Panel).
- 1.3 The Scheme for 2020/21 is unchanged from that approved by Members in June 2019.
- 1.4 Normally allowances in the scheme would have been increased in line with the agreed national pay settlement for local government officers. For 2020/21, the national pay award has not been agreed yet. A scheme needs to be approved each year, so the 2019/20 scheme will be rolled forward and will be brought back to a future meeting for possible amendment when the national pay award is agreed.
- 1.5 The Members' Allowances Scheme for 2020/21 that relates to the report and recommendations is included at Appendix 1 for Council to consider.

## **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 Council is recommended to agree the report and the Members' Allowances Scheme for 2020/21 attached at Appendix 1.**

## **3. COMMENTS OF THE GROUP DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND CORPORATE RESOURCES**

- 3.1 The Members Allowance Scheme for 2019/20 is detailed in Appendix 1 and has been updated to reflect the national pay settlement for Local Government Officers for 2019/20. This report seeks approval to implement the updated scheme.
- 3.2 The Members Allowance scheme budget for 2019/20 is £1.35m. This has been increased from the 2018/19 budget in line with the national pay settlement.

## **4. COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF LEGAL**

- 4.1 Section 18 (1) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 permits that the Secretary of State may, by regulations, make a scheme providing for the payment of a basic allowance, attendance allowance and special responsibility allowance to Members of a Local Authority.

Section 18 (2A) stipulates that regulations may also authorise or require a scheme made by a Local Authority to include provision for payment to Members of the Council of allowances in respect of expenses in arranging for the care of children or dependants as are necessarily incurred in carrying out their duties as Members.

- 4.2 In exercise of these powers the Secretary of State has issued the Local Authorities (Members Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 and subsequent amendments, hereafter referred to as “the Regulations”. The Regulations require that the Council make a scheme before the beginning of each year for the payment of a basic allowance. The scheme must also make provision for the Council’s approach to a special responsibility allowance, dependent’s and carer’s allowance, travelling and subsistence allowance and co-optees allowance.
- 4.3 In accordance with the Regulations, the Council is required to make arrangements for the publication of the scheme once it has been made. The form of publication must be in conformity with Regulation 16(1)(a) and Regulation 16(1)(b).
- 4.4 Pursuant to Part 2, Article 4, 4.6 of the Council’s Constitution, it is a function of Full Council to adopt a Members Allowance Scheme.
- 4.5 In considering this scheme, the Council must have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful conduct under the Equality Act 2010. The Council must also have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and the need to foster good relations between persons who share a protected characteristic and those who do not, in line with the public sector equality duty placed on all public bodies pursuant to Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010.

**Tim Shields**  
**Chief Executive**

## **APPENDICES**

Appendix 1 Amended Members’ Allowances Scheme for 2020/21

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None

<b>Report Author:</b>	Bruce Devile, Head of Business Intelligence & Member Services 020 8356 3418 <a href="mailto:bruce.devile@hackney.gov.uk">bruce.devile@hackney.gov.uk</a>
<b>Legal Comments</b>	Dawn Carter-McDonald 020 8356 4817 <a href="mailto:dawn.carter-mcdonald@hackney.gov.uk">dawn.carter-mcdonald@hackney.gov.uk</a>
<b>Financial Comments</b>	Dawn Seers 020 8356 1449 <a href="mailto:dawn.seers@hackney.gov.uk">dawn.seers@hackney.gov.uk</a>