

**MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME 2020/21 (REVISED)**

**COUNCIL**  
**21 OCTOBER 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 was approved by Council on 22 July 2020. It was noted, however; that the scheme on approval had not increased allowances as in previous years in line with the national pay settlement for local government officers as it was yet to be agreed and that a further report would be brought to Council for approval when agreement was reached.

1.4 The national national pay settlement for local government officers has now been agreed. The allowances contained in the Members Allowance Scheme appended to this report have been increased by 2.75% in line with the award. No other changes have been made to the scheme.

1.5 The Members' Allowances Scheme for 2020/21 that relates to the report and recommendations is included at Appendix 1 for Council to approve.

## **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, Finance and Corporate Resources**

3.1 The Members Allowance Scheme for 2020/21 is detailed in Appendix 1 and has been updated to reflect the national pay settlement for Local Government Officers for 2020/21. This report seeks approval to implement the updated scheme.

3.2 The Members Allowance scheme budget for 2020/21 would be £1.387m with the uplift for the national pay settlement included.

## **4. Comments of the Director of Legal & Governance:**

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 Members’ Allowances Scheme 2020/21 - October 2020 Update

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None

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