

Members' Allowances Working Group Report in response to JIRP 2017 report

Full Council at its meeting on 18 July 2017 responded to the report by the JIRP and recommendations of the Governance Committee of 27 June flowing from that by authorising the Chairman of Governance to set up a working party to further consider the JIRP recommendations, having regard to the current economic climate, as follows:

Resolved: That the Council welcomed and thanked the Independent Remuneration Panel for its work, and was particularly pleased with their comments regarding the involvement of members and the important part they played in the success of the authority. However

- a) before accepting the recommendations contained within the report a working group is set up to look at the following issues:
 - i) the omission of an SRA for the Chair and Vice Chair of the Community Infrastructure Levy Board and at what level any SRA should be;
 - ii) the proposed level of SRA for the Chair and Vice Chair of the Development Control Committee;
 - iii) the budgetary implications of the report and any other proposed changes;
- b) the working group will report back to Governance Committee and a further recommendation is sent to Full Council, both meetings being in November;
- c) the Chairman of Governance be delegated authority to determine the size and composition of the working group.

Whilst a working group might normally be constituted of some or all of the relevant committee, the Chairman of the Governance Committee was of the view that such a working group represented a limited range of views, because of its limited membership, and the outcome was likely to be unchanged. Accordingly, after sounding out a wide range of members for their views, the Chair of Governance concluded that the following should be put forward as the recommendation to the Governance Committee and, if thought fit, to Council.

Recommendation to Governance Committee:

a) that the Chairman of the CIL board be remunerated at the same rate as the Chairs of other committees, namely £2,144 p.a. with immediate effect,

b) that the Vice Chair of the CIL board be remunerated at the same rate as other Vice Chairs of committees, namely £534 p.a. with immediate effect,

c) that the allowance for the Vice Chair of Development Control committee be increased to £1,000 p.a. with immediate effect,

d) that otherwise the recommendations of the JIRP be instituted with effect from the commencement of the municipal year 2019/20, namely:

- i) The basic allowance shall remain unchanged.
- ii) Special Responsibility Allowances (SRAs) should be:
 - a. Council Leader £20,000 p.a.
 - b. Deputy Leader £12,000 p.a.
 - c. Opposition Group Leaders £270 p.a. per group member
 - d. Cabinet Members £7,000 p.a.
 - e. Deputy Cabinet Members £1,600 p.a.
 - f. Committee Chairs £1,500 - £5,000 p.a.
 - g. Advisory Committee Chairs £2,500 p.a.
 - h. Development Control Ctte Vice Chair £1,000 p.a.
 - i. Vice Chairs of other committees shall not receive a SRA.
 - j. Development Control Ctte Members £500 p.a.
 - k. Licensing Ctte Members £135 p.a.
 - l. Standards Co-optees £480 p.a.
- iii) Child Care Allowance should be payable at the actual amount charged, subject to a maximum rate of £7.20 per child per hour.
- iv) Dependent Carer's Allowance should be payable at the actual amount charged, subject to a maximum of £16.00 per hour.

- v) Allowances should be updated in line with any annual increases in pay awards to Council staff.
- vi) Travel expenses should continue to be based upon the HMRC approved rate.
- vii) The existing scheme for meal and subsistence allowances should continue.
- viii) The existing IT allowance should be stopped.