

(St Edmundsbury Borough Council)

West Suffolk Joint Independent Remuneration Panel

Recommendations of the Panel that:

- (1) The Basic Allowance should incorporate the £180 broadband payment as stipulated by the statutory regulations, resulting in a Basic Allowance of £5,585.00 pa;
- (2) As part of the established Member Development Programme, Members continue to develop their own personal development plans with their Group Leaders and officers, which will be resourced from within the existing budget for Member Development and monitored by officers.
- (3) The scheme should remain index linked to officers' NJC pay awards;
- (4) The SRA for the Leader of the Council should be calculated by way of a multiplier of x2 the basic allowance, resulting in an SRA of £11,170.00;
- (5) The SRA for the Deputy Leader of the Council should be calculated by way of a multiplier of x1.20 the basic allowance, resulting in an SRA of £6,702.00
- (6) The SRA for Cabinet Members with Portfolio should be calculated by way of a multiplier of x1.10 the basic allowance, resulting in an SRA of £6,143.50;
- (7) The SRA for the Chairman of Overview and Scrutiny should be calculated by way of a multiplier of x0.80 the basic allowance, resulting in an SRA of £4,468.00;
- (8) The SRA for the Vice-Chairman of Overview and Scrutiny should be calculated by way of a multiplier of x0.40 the basic allowance, resulting in an SRA of £2,234.00;
- (9) The SRA for the Chairman of Performance and Audit Scrutiny should be calculated by way of a multiplier of x0.80 the basic allowance, resulting in an SRA of £4,468.00;
- (10) The SRA for the Vice-Chairman of Performance and Audit Scrutiny should be calculated by way of a multiplier of x0.40 the basic allowance, resulting in an SRA of £2,234.00;
- (11) The SRA for the Chairman of Development Control should be increased to x1 the basic allowance to reflect the workload and demands on the role, resulting in an SRA of £5,585.00;

- (12) The SRA for the Vice-Chairman of Development Control should be calculated by way of a multiplier of x0.50 the basic allowance, resulting in an SRA of £2,792.50, to be divided equally between the two Vice-Chairmen;
- (13) The SRA for the Chairman of the Licensing and Regulatory Committee should be calculated by way of a multiplier of x0.20 the basic allowance, resulting in an SRA of £1,117.00;
- (14) A new SRA of x0.10 the basic allowance for the Vice-Chairman of the Licensing and Regulatory Committee be introduced, resulting in an SRA of £558.50;
- (15) The SRA for the Chairman of Standards should be calculated by way of a multiplier of x0.20 the basic allowance, resulting in an SRA of £1,117.00;
- (16) A new SRA of x0.10 the basic allowance for the Vice-Chairman of Standards be introduced, resulting in an SRA of £558.50;
- (17) The SRA for the Chairman of Sustainable Development Working Party should be removed at the end of 2016-2017 financial year;
- (18) A new SRA of x0.50 the basic allowance for the Mayor of the Council be introduced to reflect the demands of the role in chairing Full Council, resulting in an SRA of £2,792.50;
- (19) A new SRA of x0.25 the basic allowance for the Deputy Mayor of the Council be introduced, resulting in an SRA of £1,396.25;
- (20) The SRA for the Group Leader with 10 or more Members should be calculated by way of a multiplier of x0.60 the basic allowance, resulting in an SRA of £3,351.00;
- (21) The SRA for the Group Leader with between 5 to 9 Members should be calculated by way of a multiplier of x0.30 the basic allowance, resulting in an SRA of £1,675.50;
- (22) The SRA for Co-opted Members of Committees to be determined by each Committee as the need arises to a maximum of x0.015 the basic allowance per meeting attended;
- (23) A new Schedule 6 to be created for "Subsistence and Travelling Expenses for Co-opted members, to include:

Committees and other Council Meetings

- Attendance at Committee Meetings of which they are a member and other Council / Committee meetings (if required to do so):
- No subsistence allowance payable

- Travelling allowances payable to meeting venue from home address and also from Council Offices back home.

Meetings/Conferences outside of St Edmundsbury Borough Area

- Provided attendance at the meeting / conference is expressly agreed by the Monitoring Officer beforehand and is both appropriate and necessary for the Co-opted Committee Member concerned, travelling and subsistence allowances may be claimed. Travelling allowances may be claimed from the Members' home address to the meeting/conference and for the return journey.
 - All co-opted members shall be paid and able to claim expenses for travel; subsistence; carers allowance.
 - The current subsistence and travelling allowances payable are set out in Schedule 4.
- (24) The Carers Allowance should be set at £10 per hour wage for general care and £20 per hour wage for specialist nursing care. (These payments would not include a family member or neighbour looking after a dependent
- (25) The payment of a Carers' Allowance should only be paid on production of receipts.
- (26) The Carers' Allowance be monitored against market led increases.
- (27) The Travelling Expenses scheme should be simplified and reworded to:
- All cars: 45.0 pence a mile;
 - Carriage of passenger (councillor) in car for the same purpose: 5.0 pence a mile;
- Motor cycles/bicycles: 28.0 pence a mile;
- Train or Bus: actual standard fare incurred with receipt;
 - Taxi: actual expenditure incurred on Receipt. (Taxi to be used in Exceptional circumstances);
 - Car parking fees: actual expenditure incurred.
- (28) The Subsistence Expenses scheme should be adjusted with the allowance for breakfast, lunch and tea removed, and replaced with:
- In exceptional circumstances, subject to the agreement of the Assistant Director (HR, Legal and Democratic Services), lunch to be paid to a maximum of £10 on the production of a receipt.

- (29) The allowance for evening meal should be increased to a maximum of £20 on production of a receipt.
- (30) The overnight subsistence (deemed to cover a 24 hour period)" to be amended to:
- Include an additional paragraph, to read;
"Accommodation to be booked by officers in order to maximise any discounts that could be achieved, except in exceptional circumstances".
 - Paragraph 2.7 "meals provided free of charge" to be removed
 - Paragraph 2.8 "meals on trains" to be removed.
- (31) Schedule 2 – Approved Duties to include an additional paragraph:
- Attendance at Parish Council meetings in the capacity of a Ward Member (but not where they are attending a Parish Council of which they are a member, unless they have been seconded by the Borough Council in exceptional circumstances)
- (32) Reference to "renunciation" to be removed from the Allowance Scheme;
- (33) Reference to the Local Government Pension Scheme be removed from the Members' Scheme of Allowances.
- (34) The proposed scheme to be implemented from 1 April 2017, and would not be back dated.
- (35) A further review of Members' allowances should be undertaken in 2018.