

## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Decision Report

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Members Allowances Panel
<b>Date:</b>	25 January 2011
<b>Decision Title:</b>	Members Allowances Scheme 2011/2012
<b>Decision Reference:</b>	2557
<b>Report From:</b>	Chief Executive

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### 1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. The legislative framework governing the payment of Members Allowances is set out in the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 ("the Members' Allowances Regulations").
  
- 1.2. Under the provisions of the Members Allowances Regulations, the County Council is required each year to make a Members' Allowances Scheme. The Members' Allowances Scheme needs to make provision for payment of Basic Allowances, Special Responsibility Allowances ("SRA's") Dependents' Carers' Allowances, and travelling and Subsistence Allowances.
  
- 1.3. By virtue of the Members' Allowances Regulations, before the County Council can make or amend a Members' Allowances Scheme, it is required to have regard to recommendations made in relation to it by an Independent Remuneration Panel ("IRP"). In this regard the IRP met on 10 December 2010. Minutes of the IRP meeting together with recommendations of the IRP are attached at Appendix A.

### 2. Contextual information

#### **Recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel**

#### **Members Allowances Scheme 2011/2012**

- a) That Basic Allowances and SRAs be frozen at existing rates from 1 April 2011.**

This recommendation is a repeat of the recommendation of the previous IRP in November 2009 in respect of Basic Allowances and SRAs for the year 2010/2011. The County Council determined at its meeting on 18 February 2010 that Basic Allowances and SRAs for Members should be frozen at existing rates from 1 April 2010, consistent with the pay freeze for staff and the recommendation of the IRP.

- b) That the Independent Appeal Panel Members' Motor Vehicle Allowance (currently 57.8p per mile) be frozen for 2011/2012 but that this be investigated further by the IRP during the next 12 months.**

Members of the IRP felt that it was unclear as to why the Motor Vehicle Allowance for Independent Appeal Panel Members was paid at a different rate to the general Motor Vehicle Allowance. The IRP indicated that they intended to look at this in the forthcoming year in the course of a detailed review of Members' Allowances, but for the time being considered that the Motor Vehicle Allowance for Independent Appeal Panel Members should be frozen. This would be in line with other recommendations in this report.

- c) That all mileage rates with the exception of b) above, are aligned to HMRC approved levels. These are currently, 20p for bicycles, 24p for motorcycles and 40p for the first 10,000 miles, and 25p thereafter for motor car vehicles.**

This recommendation proposes a uniform adoption of the HMRC rates for bicycles, motorcycles, and other motor vehicles.

### **3. Information**

- 3.1. The Members' Allowances Scheme 2011/2012 will be considered by the County Council at its meeting on 24 February 2011.

### **4. Recommendations**

- 4.1. That the Members' Allowances Panel recommend to the County Council that approval will be given to a Members' Allowances Scheme 2011/2012, which takes into account the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel, and the views set out in this report.

**CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:****Links to the Corporate Strategy**

<b>Hampshire safer and more secure for all:</b>	yes/no
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
<b>Maximising well-being:</b>	yes/no
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
<b>Enhancing our quality of place:</b>	yes/no
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
<b>OR</b>	
<b>This proposal does not link to the Corporate Strategy but, nevertheless, requires a decision because:</b>	
<i>NB: Only complete this section if you have not completed any of the Corporate Strategy tick boxes above. If it is not applicable, please delete.</i>	

*NB: If the 'Other significant links' section below is not applicable, please delete it.*

**Other Significant Links**

<b>Links to previous Member decisions:</b>		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Date</u>
<b>Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives</b>		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>	

**Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents**

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
None	

**IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:**

**1. Equalities Impact Assessment:**

N/A

**2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:**

N/A

**3. Climate Change:**

- a) How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption?

N/A

- b) How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts?

N/A