

Management Committee

18 April 2017

Report of the Joint Independent Remuneration Panel

For Recommendation To Council

Briefholder

Corporate Affairs and Continuous Improvement

Senior Leadership Team Contact:

S Caundle, Assistant Chief Executive

Report Author:

Joint Independent Remuneration Panel

Statutory Authority

Local Government Act 2000, The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003.

Purpose of Report

- 1 To receive the report of the Joint Independent Remuneration Panel.

Recommendations

- 2 That the attached report and recommendations of the Joint Independent Remuneration Panel in respect of the Council's Scheme of Members' Allowances be presented to Full Council for formal consideration.

Reason for Decision

- 3 To enable the Council to consider recommendations on the scheme of allowances following a fundamental review undertaken by the Joint Independent Remuneration Panel.

Background

- 4 Under the Local Government (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003, Weymouth and Portland Borough Council, like all local authorities, is required to establish an Independent Remuneration Panel to make recommendations to the Council in respect of its Scheme of Members' Allowances. When setting a scheme of allowances, the Council must have regard to the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel.

This fundamental review has been undertaken by a Joint Independent Remuneration Panel who has also undertaken a review of members' allowances for North Dorset District Council and West Dorset District Council.

The Joint Independent Remuneration Panel has concluded their fundamental review of the Council's Scheme of Members' Allowances and their report and recommendations are presented at Appendix 1 for members' consideration.

Implications

Financial

The recommendations in the report of the Joint Independent Remuneration Panel, if agreed by Full Council, would result in an increase in the members' allowances budget by £14,023* a year.

* In accordance with the Scheme of Members' Allowances, allowances are adjusted annually in accordance with the % variation negotiated for local government officers and specifically in respect of the variation applied to spinal column point 34 on the officers' pay scales. With effect from 1 April 2017, the basic and special responsibility allowances will be increased by 1%. Due to the timing of the review, the figures shown in the report of the Joint Independent Remuneration Panel are the figures for 2016/17.

Equalities

The level of allowances paid to local councillors can have an effect on encouraging candidates for local elections from diverse backgrounds.

Environmental

Not applicable

Economic Development

Not applicable

Risk Management (including Health & Safety)

The council is required to have an Independent Remuneration Panel and to have regard to the recommendations of the panel in setting a scheme of members' allowances.

Human Resources

Not applicable

Consultation and Engagement

All members of Council were invited to submit written representations for consideration by the Joint Independent Remuneration Panel. All Group Leaders were invited to meet with the panel.

Chief Executive, Assistant Chief Executive, representatives of the Corporate Management Team.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – report of the Joint Independent Remuneration Panel

Background Papers

Weymouth and Portland Borough Council Scheme of Members' Allowances (Part F of the Council's Constitution)

Footnote

Issues relating to financial, environmental, economic and equalities implications have been considered and any information relevant to the decision is included within the report.

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Date: April 2017