

## CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

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REPORT OF: Democratic Services Manager

TO: Civic Affairs Committee

29/1/2014

WARDS: None directly affected

### **MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES-MUNICIPAL YEAR 2014/15**

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#### **1 INTRODUCTION**

The Committee is asked to consider whether the existing Members' Allowances Scheme be retained for 2014/15.

#### **2. RECOMMENDATION**

To recommend to Council (on 27 February 2014) that the existing Members' Allowances Scheme be continued for the 2014/15 Municipal Year (as appended).

#### **3. BACKGROUND**

3.1 A Members' Allowances Scheme is set by the Council. If any changes are to be made to an existing scheme, it can only be done following consideration of the changes by the Independent Remuneration Panel.

3.2 This Council has chosen to agree its Allowance Scheme annually and has agreed to keep allowances at the level set for 2007/08 and retaining the Scheme for 2014/15 would mean for the eighth successive year the Basic Allowance for all Members would be £3,199. It is not known if the continuation of the Scheme first adopted in 2007/08 has proven to be an impediment to anyone standing for office or seeking re-election.

#### **4. OPTIONS**

The Committee could choose to review the existing Allowances Scheme which could either result in a budget bid via the mid-year

financial review or a re-allocation of existing allowances - depending on the Scheme recommended for consideration by the Independent Remuneration Panel.

## 5. **IMPLICATIONS**

### (a) **Financial Implications**

There is £262,850 in the 2014/15 budget (to be considered by Council on 27 February) for Members' Allowances. This could be reviewed once the details are known of appointments by the Leader/Council following local elections this May.

### (b) **Staffing Implications - none**

### (c) **Equal Opportunities Implications**

An equalities impact assessment was not undertaken as the proposal is for no change. The implications of continuing with the existing scheme are referred to in paragraph 3.

### (d) **Environmental Implications**

### (e) **Procurement**

### (f) **Consultation and communication**

### (g) **Community Safety**

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS: None**

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