

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11

COUNCIL

Date

16 DECEMBER 2010

Title

MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME

1. PURPOSE/SUMMARY

The current Members' Allowance scheme was adopted by Full Council in November 2007 based on the recommendations of an Independent Remuneration Committee. The Scheme has been prepared in exercise of the powers conferred by the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003. The Regulations require a review of the scheme no less than every four years.

2. KEY ISSUES

- The last review of the Members' Allowances scheme took place in November 2007 and was adopted by Full Council at it's meeting on 8 November 2007.
- The Council adopted the scheme based upon the recommendations of an Independent Remuneration Panel.
- The Independent Remuneration Panel was established in accordance with the 2003 Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003.
- The Council needs to operate a scheme that is fair and equitable to all members in terms of their remuneration.
- Council considered a proposal to review the current Members' Allowance scheme during it's meeting on 17 December 2009. It was agreed that a review should be deferred until November 2010.
- The 2003 Regulations require that a Members' Allowances scheme is reviewed no less than every four years.
- As a result of the current financial climate it is recommended that the existing scheme remains in operation and is not subject to a review at this time.
- Members should be mindful that a full review of the Members Allowances scheme will be required next year, 2011 in order to be compliant with the 2003 Regulations.

3. RECOMMENDATION(S)

That Council considers the recommendation that the existing Members' Allowances Scheme remains in operation and is not subject to a review at this time due to the current economic climate. It is recommended a full review is undertaken by an Independent Remuneration Committee during 2011 therefore ensuring compliance with the 2003 Regulations.

Wards Affected	All
Forward Plan Reference No. (if applicable)	NA
Portfolio Holder(s)	Councillor Melton, Leader of the Council
Report Originator	Sandra Claxton, Chief Executive Anna Goodall Head of Governance and Legal Services
Contact Officer(s)	Anna Goodall Head of Governance and Legal Services
Background Paper(s)	Council Report: Review of Members' Allowances Scheme, 8 November 2007. Council Report: Member Allowances Review Proposal, December 2009