

Item

SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY ALLOWANCES UPDATE 2018/19



To:

Civic Affairs Committee 10/10/18

Report by:

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Wards affected:

None directly affected

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Council (at its meeting on 22 February 2018) agreed a new Special Responsibility Allowance (SRA) be paid to the Cabinet Member on the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority for municipal year 2017/18 . It also approved further evidence gathering on the work of city councillor responsibilities on the Combined Authority, Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) and Police and Crime Panel, reporting back to the Civic Affairs Committee in the new municipal year.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 To determine whether to agree with the IRPs recommendations, or to amend them, for Council decision.

3. Background

Special Responsibility Allowances

3.1 Officers circulated a questionnaire to councillors to seek comments from councillors who held these roles in 2017/18 and 2018/19 to help inform the IRP whether these roles had significant additional responsibilities in relation to the discharge of the authority's functions and warranted an SRA:

- Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee (2 Cllrs)
- Combined Authority Audit and Governance Committee (1 Cllr)
- Greater Cambridge Partnership Assembly (3 Cllrs)
- Cambs and Peterborough Police and Crime Panel (1 Cllr)
- GCP Board Member (1 Cllr)
- Cabinet Member of the Combined Authority (1 Cllr)

3.1. The IRP met on 14 August 2018 with Councillors Bick, Sargeant, Herbert and Baigent to consider the Council resolution of 22 February 2018 detailed below:

- i. Approve further evidence gathering on the work of city councillor responsibilities on the Combined Authority, Greater Cambridge Partnership and Police and Crime Panel, reporting back to the Civic Affairs Committee in the new municipal year.

3.3 The IRP were also asked to consider travel allowances paid under the Council's members allowances scheme and whether it could be made clearer when a member could claim travel allowances.

3.3 The IRP's report is attached. The Panel has made three recommendations. Any decision on amending the Allowances Scheme is for the Full Council. The Committee can recommend, amend, or reject the Panel's proposals. The Panel has been invited to attend the Committee.

Travel claims

3.4 The Panel have provided clarification on travel claims for Cambridge City Council meetings (ie. within the city) and that officers can consult the three group leaders in cases of doubt.

4. Implications

(a) Financial Implications

Page:

The IRP recommendation would mean an additional £6,775 which for

3

2018/19 can be funded from forecast underspends in Corporate Strategy budgets.

(b) Staffing Implications - none

(c) Equality and Poverty Implications

The IRP have equality considerations within its terms of reference and informed its work on the special responsibility allowances for city councillor's who hold positions on the Combined Authority, Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) and Police and Crime Panel.

(d) Environmental Implications

(e) Procurement Implications

(f) Community Safety Implications

None of the above.

5. Consultation and communication considerations

Not applicable.

6. Background papers

Members allowances schemes for Councils who are a member of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority

Members allowances schemes for the Greater Manchester Combined Authority

Members allowances schemes for the West of England Combined Authority