

CIVIC AFFAIRS

1 February 2012

6.00 - 7.22 pm

Present: Councillors Boyce (Chair), Rosenstiel (Vice-Chair), Marchant-Daisley, Herbert and Stuart

Also Present: Councillor Taylor

FOR ADOPTION BY THE COUNCIL**12/11/civ Members Allowances Scheme 2012/13**

The committee received a report from the Head of Legal Services regarding the Members Allowances Scheme 2012/13.

Members of the committee made the following comments regarding the report:

- i. Acknowledged the important work undertaken by the Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP).
- ii. Noted that, despite the recommendations of the IRP, member's allowances had been frozen for five years.
- iii. As a result of a decision by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) food would no longer be provided for Councillors at Council meetings.
- iv. More clarity was needed on claiming subsistence when travelling over 3 miles to a meeting, and if this also included travelling from within the boundary of the City. Officers noted this comment.

Councillor Herbert suggested that, whilst the member's allowances budget remained the same, there was a need for a comprehensive review of the allocations after the elections in May 2012.

The Chief Executive responded that, as part of the Strategy and Climate Change Portfolio Plan, a full review of the Council's decision-making processes would be undertaken in 2012/13. It was suggested that it would be beneficial to look at member's allowances as part of this review.

Councillor Boyce proposed the following amendment to the officer's recommendation (additional text underlined):

That the Members Allowances Scheme 2011/12 be continued for the 2012/13 municipal year, but be reviewed as part of the Leaders full review of the Council's decision-making processes in 2012/13.

On a show of hands the amendment was carried by 5 votes to 0 (unanimously).

Resolved (unanimously) to recommend to Council that

- i. The Members Allowances Scheme 2011/12 be continued for the 2012/13 municipal year, but be reviewed as part of the Leaders full review of the Council's decision-making processes in 2012/13.

The meeting ended at 7.22 pm

CHAIR