

TRAFFORD COUNCIL

Report to: Council
Date: 29 March 2017
Report for: Decision
Report of: Chief Executive

Report Title

Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel

Summary

In accordance with the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 the Panel was convened to make recommendations to the Council in relation to amendments to the Scheme of Members' allowances.

The recommendations of the Panel are appended at appendix 1 to this report for consideration by the Council.

Recommendation(s)

1. The Council is asked to consider the recommendations of the Panel as set out in the report at Appendix 1.
2. That the Director of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to make any revisions to Part 6 of the Constitution (Members Allowances Scheme) as a consequence of the decisions of the Council.

Implications

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| Relationship to Policy Framework/Corporate Priorities | N/A |
| Financial | The report recommends the Members' Allowances annual indexation link to staff pay is continued. The Council's approved budget includes provision for this. |
| Legal Implications: | The Council is required to request an Independent Remuneration Panel to make recommendations about allowances for Members. The Council is required to give notice of a receipt of a report from a Panel and that it is about to make or amend a scheme. Notice of the receipt of a report was given on 16 March 2017. |
| Equality/Diversity Implications | None |
| Sustainability Implications | None |
| Staffing/E-Government/Asset | None |

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| Management Implications | |
| Risk Management Implications | None |
| Health and Safety Implications | None |

Contact person for access to background papers and further information:

Name: Peter Forrester
 Extension: 1815

Background Papers:

Email to IRP Members – 17th January 2017
 Responses to email

Report

In accordance with the Local Authorities (Members’ Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 the Panel was convened to make recommendations to the Council in relation to amendments to the Scheme of Members’ allowances.

The independent panel comprised:

- Lesley Davies, Trafford College
- Mr Chris Fletcher, Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce
- Mr. Ralph Rudden, Voluntary Sector

The Panel were informed that the Members’ Allowances Scheme allows an alignment of adjustments to Members’ Allowances to any annual adjustment to staff pay.

The regulations for Members’ Allowances state that Councils can rely on this annual adjustment of allowances for no longer than a period of four years before seeking a further recommendation from the IRP. The adjustment clause was last agreed by the IRP in 2013 and expires this year. Therefore, the Panel were asked to consider the inclusion of a new clause for the next four years.

The Panel agreed that the arrangement should continue and recommend that the Council agree to their recommendation to update the scheme to allow for an annual adjustment for this year and for the period up to 2020/21. The report of the Panel is contained at Appendix A.