

## TRAFFORD COUNCIL

**Report to:** Council  
**Date:** 25 July 2018  
**Report for:** Decision  
**Report of:** Director of Legal and Democratic Services

### 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

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 18 July 2018.
Equality/Diversity Implications	None
Sustainability Implications	None
Staffing/E-Government/Asset Management Implications	None
Risk Management Implications	None

Health and Safety Implications	None
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**Contact person for access to background papers and further information:**

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**Background Papers:**

Email to IRP Members – 27 June 2018  
Responses to email

**Report**

The Council deferred a report from the Independent Remuneration Panel recommending an annual uplift mechanism be included in the Members Allowances Scheme in March 2017. This means that no pay rise can be applied to the allowances scheme until the Council agree to the inclusion of such a provision.

In accordance with the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003, the Panel was reconvened to update their 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 has generally included a provision to allow an increase to Members' Allowances linked to any annual adjustment to staff pay.

The regulations for Members' Allowances state that Councils can rely on an 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 expired in 2017. The Panel were asked to consider the inclusion of a new clause for four years with effect from 1 April 2018.

The Panel recommended that the arrangement should continue and that the Council agree to update the scheme to allow for an annual adjustment for this year and for the period up to 31 March 2022. The report of the Panel is contained at Appendix A.