

TRAFFORD COUNCIL

Report to: Council
Date: 29 January 2020
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 attached 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 and should new allowances be introduced, they be backdated to the date of appointment of 22 May 2019.
- 2 That the Corporate Director for Governance and Community Strategy be authorised to make any revisions to Part 6 of the Constitution (Members Allowances Scheme) as a consequence of the decisions of the Council.

Contact person for access to background papers and further information:

Name: Ian Cockill
Extension: 1387

Background Papers:

Email to IRP Members – 19 August 2019 and responses.

Implications

Relationship to Policy Framework/Corporate Priorities	N/A
Financial	The report recommends paying additional allowances totalling £9758 which can be met within existing budgets.
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 23 January 2020.
Equality/Diversity Implications	None
Sustainability Implications	None
Staffing/E-Government/Asset Management Implications	None
Risk Management Implications	None
Health and Safety Implications	None

Report

1 Introduction

In accordance with the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 the Panel was convened in August 2019 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; and
- Mr. Ralph Rudden, Voluntary Sector

The purpose was to consider the remuneration for the new Lead Member and Shadow Lead Member roles for Education which were established at the Annual Council Meeting on 22 May 2019.

2. The Panel's Findings

The Panel reviewed the role and responsibilities for the new Lead Member to understand the workload and the scope of the role. They noted that the Member with Special Responsibility for Education is responsible for championing all aspects of education across the council. They will provide advice and support to the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services in fulfilling their responsibilities in relation to Education and undertake certain activities on their behalf. This role will be vital in allowing the Executive Member for Children's Services to focus on the issues arising from the recent Ofsted inspection. The Panel concluded that it would be consistent to treat the Lead and Shadow Lead Member positions in the same way that had been done previously for similar roles.

Prior to discontinuation in 2016, the Council had agreed a Panel recommendation that Lead Member roles established in 2014 receive a Special Responsibility Allowance of £7,789 for the Lead Member and £1,590 for the Shadow Lead Member. The current rates once uplifted in line with the JNC increases approved by the Panel in 2018 are £8,104 and £1,654 respectively and total £9,758.

3. The Panel's Recommendations

The Council is requested to consider the recommendation of the Panel that the Scheme of Members' Allowances for Trafford Council be amended to include a Special Responsibility Allowance of £8,104 for the Lead Member for Education and £1,654 for the Shadow Lead Member.