



<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<b>CHIEF EXECUTIVE</b>
<b>TO:</b>	<b>COUNCIL FORUM</b>
<b>ON:</b>	<b>22nd JULY 2021</b>

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**SUBJECT:**

**INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL & MEMBER ALLOWANCES**

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**1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

For Council Forum to consider recommendations relating to the Independent Remuneration Panel for 2022 onwards.

**2. BACKGROUND**

Part 6 of the Council Constitution details the Members Allowances Scheme.

Under paragraph 3 of the Scheme it is a requirement that the Scheme be reviewed at least every 4 years. The Council last reviewed the Scheme in 2017/18 for introduction in May 2018.

Accordingly Council is now asked to agree that, in accordance with the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 (as amended), recruitment to a refreshed Independent Remuneration Panel is undertaken as soon as possible, (with an invite to existing members to reapply should they wish to continue). Regulation 20 of the above provides that the panel must be independent, consisting of at least three members none of whom:

“(a) is also a member of an authority in respect of which it makes recommendations or is a member of a committee or sub-committee of such an authority; or

(b) is disqualified from being or becoming a member of an authority.”

Once established/refreshed, the Remuneration panel will make recommendations back to Council for consideration in respect of the Members Allowance Scheme.

As noted above the current Scheme has been in place since May 2018. Under paragraph 5.2, of the Approved Scheme the Council is asked to note that allowances have since

been increased in line with the NJC pay awards in 2019/20 and more recently for 2020/21. No pay award has yet been agreed for NJC staff for 2021/22.

### **3. RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the Council agrees to commence the process to recruit and appoint members to a refreshed Independent Remuneration Panel to develop and make recommendations for the Members Allowances Scheme from 2022 onwards in accordance with the Regulations. That the Council also notes that payments are currently continuing in accordance with the Scheme as approved from 2018 including increases reflecting the NJC Pay Awards since.

Contact Officer: Denise Park, Chief Executive  
David Fairclough, Director HR Legal & Governance

Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2021

Background Papers: Independent Remuneration Panel