

INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL

Minutes of a meeting held at the Council Offices, Narborough

6 SEPTEMBER 2005

Present:-

Mr J C Dodd

Dr B B Kierman

Mr B North

Officers present:-

Mrs E Read

- Democratic Services Manager

Mrs D Johnson

- Committees & Electoral Administrator

1. **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

The Democratic Services Manager invited nominations for the election of Chairman of the Independent Remuneration Panel.

DECISION

That Dr. B.W. Kiernan be appointed Chairman of the Independent Remuneration Panel.

2. **REVIEW OF MEMBERS ALLOWANCE SCHEME**

Considered – Report of the Democratic Services Manager relating to the Review of Members' Allowance Scheme.

A paper was circulated at the meeting in respect of further issues to be considered by the Panel which included the following:

- SRA for the Vice-Chairman of the Development Control Committee.
- Regularise the SRA for the Chairs of Licensing and Regulatory Committees.
- Junior Cabinet Members attending Cabinet Meetings.

DECISION

(1) That further information be provided to the next meeting of the Independent Remuneration Panel in respect of the following:

- Basic Allowance – Comparison with other authorities which fall within the same family grouping as Blaby District
- Licensing and Regulatory Committee and Licensing Sub-Committee – Comparison with other authorities which fall within the same family grouping as Blaby District
- Cabinet/Junior Members – Details relating to workload
- Vice-Chairman of Development Control – Details relating to workload

(2) that a letter be sent to all Members of the Council requesting information relating to an estimate of the time taken from work/home to attend Committee Meetings, and the quantities of work undertaken in their role as a District Councillor.

THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 5.18 PM.

BLABY DISTRICT COUNCIL

Agenda Item	4
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Meeting:	Independent Remuneration Panel
Date:	27 October 2005
Subject:	Review of Members Allowance Scheme
Report of:	Democratic Services Manager
Status:	Public

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To review the payments of members allowances in accordance with the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances)(England) Regulations 2003 (as amended).

2.	<u>Recommendation to Council</u>
2.1	Changes suggested to the Members Allowance scheme be referred to Council for consideration.
3.	<u>Reason for Decision Recommended</u>
3.1	To ensure that the Members Allowance scheme is reviewed on a regular basis and that the allowances payable are appropriate.

4. Forward Plan

- 4.1 Not applicable.

5. Key Decision

- 5.1 No

6. Matter(s) for Consideration

- 6.1 At the last meeting of the Panel I was requested to obtain further information from authorities who fell within the same audit family grouping as Blaby District Council. Attached at Appendix A is a schedule containing this information for consideration.
- 6.2 I was also requested to write to Members requesting information on their workload and the time taken from home/work to attend meetings. Copies of their responses are attached at Appendix B.

7. Other Options Considered

- 7.1 Not to alter the Members Allowance scheme.

8. Appropriate Consultations

- 8.1 All the local authorities which fall within the same audit family grouping as Blaby District have been contacted regarding their members allowance scheme particularly in relation to the areas which need to be addressed and a schedule of the responses is attached at Appendix A.
- 8.2 All elected Members have been contacted to establish their workload and the time taken from work/home to attend meetings and copies of the responses are attached at Appendix B.

9. Financial and Efficiency Implications

- 9.1 Any increases in members allowances would not be met within the existing revenue budgets allocated to members allowances and the Council would need to take this into account when considering any recommendations from the Independent Remuneration Panel.

10. List of Background Papers

- 10.1 None.

The following Officer(s)/Member(s) have been consulted (identified by ✓):

- ✓ Monitoring Officer

Authority	Basic Allowance	VC Development Control	Chairman of Licensing/Regulatory Committees	Members of Licensing Sub-Committee/Panel	Cabinet Members	Junior Cabinet Members
Blaby District Council	£3622.20				£5000	£2000
East Northamptonshire Council	£3,100	£775.00	£2,325	£801 - Chairmen of Licensing Hearings	No Cabinet	
Fareham District Council	£5,094	£764.00	£3,820	Awaiting recommendations from Independent Remuneration Panel	£10,188	No Junior Member
Gedding Borough Council	£3,336		£3,060	Travel & subsistence only	£6.144	No Junior Member
Lichfield District Council	£2,470	£1,480	£2,470	Travel & subsistence only	£6.270	No Junior Member
Rushcliffe Borough Council	£3,245	£1,662	£3,245	Travel & subsistence only	£4.043	No Junior Member
South Derbyshire Borough Council	£3,732	£2,133		To be considered Jan 2006	£4.797	No Junior Member
South Holland District Council	£3,465	£1,050	£2,625	Did not adopt specific allowances for Members	£5.250	No Junior Member

South Staffordshire Council	£5,000		£2.590		£5.000	No junior member
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BLABY DISTRICT COUNCIL

Agenda Item

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Report of:	Democratic Services Manager
Status:	Public

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To review the payments of members allowances in accordance with the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances)(England) Regulations 2003 (as amended).

2.	<u>Recommendation to Panel</u>
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| 2.1 | The Panel consider what, if any, changes it wishes to recommend to Council with regard to the Members Allowance Scheme. |
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3.	<u>Reason for Decision Recommended</u>
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| 3.1 | To ensure that the Members Allowance scheme is reviewed on a regular basis and that the allowances payable are appropriate. |
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4. Forward Plan

- 4.1 Not applicable.

5. Key Decision

- 5.1 No

6. Matter(s) for Consideration

- 6.1 At the last meeting of the Panel I was requested to obtain further information from authorities who fell within the same audit family grouping as Blaby District Council. Attached at Appendix A is a schedule containing this information for consideration.
- 6.2 I was also requested to write to Members requesting information on their workload and the time taken from home/work to attend meetings. Copies of their responses are attached at Appendix B.
- 6.3 The Panel is requested to consider the information at Appendix A and Appendix B and the previous report to the Panel at its meeting held on 6 September 2005.
- 6.4 The Panel is then requested to consider what, if any, recommendations it wishes to make to Council with regard to changes to the Members Allowances Scheme.

7. Other Options Considered

- 7.1 Not to alter the Members Allowance scheme.

8. Appropriate Consultations

- 8.1 All the local authorities which fall within the same audit family grouping as Blaby District have been contacted regarding their members allowance scheme particularly in relation to the areas which need to be addressed and a schedule of the responses is attached at Appendix A.
- 8.2 All elected Members have been contacted to establish their workload and the time taken from work/home to attend meetings and copies of the responses are attached at Appendix B.

9. Financial and Efficiency Implications

- 9.1 Any increases in members allowances would not be met within the existing revenue budgets allocated to members allowances and the Council would need to take this into account when considering any recommendations from the Independent Remuneration Panel.

10. List of Background Papers

- 10.1 Report of the Democratic Services Manager to the meeting of the Independent Remuneration Panel held on 6 September 2005.

The following Officer(s)/Member(s) have been consulted (identified by ✓):

- ✓ Monitoring Officer