

Questionnaire – Members Allowances 2015

Q1 - Basic Allowance. Please give your view on the current basic allowance, including its linkage to the NJC Staff Pay award.

Answered: 22 Skipped: 0

1	I think the allowance is sufficient for the work that is involved being a district councillor
2	As members of the authority, I think that the allowance given is a fair amount, but maybe to encourage members of the public that are interested in politics and have no transport or maybe child care responsibilities this monthly allowance could do with being enhanced to attract different strata's of people. This allowance should be kept in line with the NJC scales and living wage.
3	Level should be in line with similar sized authorities. Linkage thereafter is logical and sensible.
4	I think the basic allowance is fair and link to the NJC Staff Pay Award
5	No answer
6	I think it's a little lower than other councils
7	In line with current duties and responsibilities the basic allowance falls at least 20% short of being realistic.
8	No answer
9	Each and every member works very differently weather on council duties or private. There are some members who are able to put many hours in to the role of a councillor do to the fact that they are retired or life style allows the time. However do to the time required and the very low allowances paid the vast majority of interested persons to the roll of councillor is vastly reduced. This was evident at the 2015 elections when all political parties struggled to find candidates. If allowances continue to stay at such a low rate then there will be less and less councillors forward in future elections for the roll.
10	No answer
11	In light of national pay constraint I feel the current level is correct including the link to the NJCS
12	Allowances should be directly relevant to size of operation, operational responsibility and specialist skills or qualifications. In examining the NJC pay scales, the there would appear a sound argument that Councillors should be rewarded against both responsibility and time demand. In the modern climate where society would benefit enormously from more involvement by Councillors

	<p>and the role be more attractive to members of the working public who will bring much needed skills to the role and council, a technically voluntary basis will rarely attract much needed business skills.</p> <p>It would appear that, depending on responsibilities and roles and time demand the role of a Councillor should be aligned between SO1 and PO5 and likely pro-rata'd to a committed attendance policy</p>
13	The basic allowances needs to reflect rise in cost of living and that more burden is being places on councils and continue to be linked to NJC pay award.
14	I believe the basic allowance is adequate and the NJC linkage is simple to understand, fair and workable.
15	no change
16	The allowance should be higher to reflect the levels of work members get involved with and the responsibilities that they have in the decisions they make and take
17	It is ok, won't be able to retire on it but it covers the hours that I put in
18	As a new Councillor and not familiar with having a basic allowance, but knowing about the NJC Staff Scales and awards, I feel that the Members Allowances should be on similar to the staff ones.
19	Seems a sensible arrangement
20	Current allowance is acceptable
21	Seems reasonable to undertake duties and time consumed with being a councillor