

Conservative Group Proposal

"The conservative group have fully considered the report of the Independent Remuneration Panel and are comfortable with the report in all aspects save for the recommendation that the basic allowance should remain the same.

We are requesting that the remuneration panel reconsider this aspect in the light of presentations that will be made to the panel but also in respect of the following;

- The basic allowance has not been increased, save for some cost of living increases, for some 12 years.
- Whilst allowances are not meant to reward councillors but to compensate them for the work they do the move to electronic working has necessitated councillors incurring additional expense in buying appropriate devices and being linked to the internet etc. Unlike some councils Blaby does not provide such equipment which members need to purchase themselves. This change of working practice has resulted in significant savings to the council.
- The removal of the pension provision for councillors, whilst saving cost to the council, has meant that councillors, now need to consider what additional personal provision they need to make especially where there are sacrificing work opportunities to carry out the business of the council.

The Blaby District Council Conservative Group propose that the basic allowance for all members be increased from £4093 currently to £5000

All parties are struggling with attracting candidates, in no small part, to the effect that becoming a councillor can have on career and earning opportunities and raising our basic allowance to what is requested will still mean that we are in the bottom quartile of council allowances, but may assist in protecting our democratic process."

Regards Cllr Deanne Woods,
Vice Chair of Conservative Group.