

INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL

Minutes of a meeting held at the Council Offices, Narborough

THURSDAY, 25 JANUARY 2007

Present:-

Dr B.W. Kiernan (Chairman)

Mr J.C. Dodd

Mr B. North

Officers present:-

Mrs E.M. Read - Democratic Services Manager

Also in attendance:-

Cllr. J.A. Dolby, Cllr. G.L. Welsh and Cllr. E.F. White (Leader of the Council)

Apologies:- (none)

4. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 December 2006, as circulated, were approved and signed as a correct record.

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5. **REVIEW OF MEMBERS ALLOWANCES**

Considered – Report of the Democratic Services Manager relating to the review of Members Allowances.

The Democratic Services Manager reminded the panel that they needed to consider the items left un-concluded from the previous meeting and following the provision of further information. The Democratic Services Manager also reminded the panel that all existing Councillors had been consulted on the proposed recommendations and that only one written response had been received which was attached as an appendix to the report.

Cllr. G. L. Welsh attended the meeting to provide information in relation to his roles as Group Leader, Chairman of the Scrutiny Commission, and Scrutiny Commissioner. Cllr. J. A. Dolby attended as an observer.

Cllr. E.F. White also attended the meeting to provide further information and representations in relation to Member Champions and the role of Junior Cabinet Members.

Recommendation to Council

1. That all Special Responsibility Allowances be index linked in line with the staff pay award with effect from 1 April 2007, to be reviewed in October 2007.
2. That only 2 Special Responsibility Allowances should be paid to each Councillor.
3. That an allowance of £25 be paid to members of the Development Control Committee where there are afternoon site visits that they attend prior to the meeting, with effect from 1 January 2007.
4. An allowance based on attendance was considered but this was determined to be too onerous to administer and was the reason the scheme was altered previously.
5. In relation to the provision of IT for Councillors, this matter is being considered as part of the review of Member Support.
6. That the Special Responsibility Allowance relating to the Cabinet Executive Portfolio Holder including Finance be abolished.
7. That the Special Responsibility Allowance relating to the Deputy Leader of the Council is increased to £1,500.
8. That the roles of Junior Cabinet Member and Member Champion be merged, resulting in a Special Responsibility Allowance for Junior Cabinet Member/Member Champion of £2,000. This will be reviewed in January 2008.
9. That the Special Responsibility Allowance for the roles of the Chairman of the Scrutiny Commission and Scrutiny Commissioner be combined and set at £5,000.

THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 5.35 P.M.

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