

BLABY DISTRICT COUNCIL

Meeting: Independent Remuneration Panel

Date: 26 March 2007

Subject: Members Allowances

Report of: Democratic Services Manager

Status: Public

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The Panel at its meeting on 25 January 2007 made its final recommendations to Council. Since then some further information has come to light and therefore the panel is requested to review the recommendations in relation to the review of Members' Allowances in accordance with the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances)(England) Regulations 2003 (as amended) prior to submission of its recommendations to the Council.

2.	<u>Recommendation to Panel</u>
2.1	The Panel consider, what if any changes, should be made to the Members Allowance Scheme.
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 The Panel at its last meeting agreed the final recommendations to Council detailed in the minutes of the meeting held on 25 January 2007. After the meeting Officers were checking the recommendations and it appears that some incorrect information was provided to the panel.
- 6.2 The Chairman of Scrutiny Commission does not in fact also receive a Scrutiny Commissioners allowance, however, the panel were advised that this was not the case.
- 6.3 In relation to allowances received by the Leader of other authorities, the schemes had not been checked to establish if the Leader could also claim other allowances. This has now been checked and is detailed in Appendix A to the report.
- 6.4 It was also found that the panel had not considered the issue of opposition Deputy Leader allowances. Detailed in appendix B are the allowances paid by other authorities in this respect. I have also written to the Leaders of the Opposition parties to ask for their comments in relation to this matter.

7. Other Options Considered

- 7.1 Not to recommend and alterations to the Members Allowance scheme

8. Appropriate Consultations

- 8.1 All Councillors.

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