

# BLABY DISTRICT COUNCIL

**Meeting:** Independent Remuneration Panel

**Date:** 20 November 2007

**Subject:** Members Allowances

**Report of:** Democratic Services Manager

**Status:** Public

## 1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 That the Panel considers the recommendations approved by Council on 10 July 2007 in relation to index linking of Special Responsibility Allowances and the level of Special Responsibility Allowance paid to the Leader of the Council.

## 2. Recommendations

That the Independent Remuneration Panel re-considers the following recommendations:

- 2.1 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.
- 2.2 That no change be made to the Special Responsibility Allowance for the Leader of the Council, to be reviewed in October 2007.

## 3. Reason for Decisions Recommended

- 3.1 To ensure that the Members Allowances 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 Not applicable.

## 6. Matters for Consideration

- 6.1 At the meeting of Council held on 10 July 2007, Members approved a number of recommendations agreed by the Independent Remuneration Panel made at its meeting on 2 July 2007 (Council Minute 106:2007/2008 refers).

- 6.2 The first recommendation approved stipulated that all Special Responsibility Allowances should be index linked in line with the staff pay award, with effect from 1 April 2007. This recommendation was originally agreed by the Independent Remuneration Panel at its meeting held on 6 December 2006.
- 6.3 The tenth recommendation approved stipulated that no change should be made to the Special Responsibility Allowance payable to the Leader of the Council. This recommendation was originally agreed by the Independent Remuneration Panel at its meeting held on 26 March 2007.
- 6.4 Both recommendations were also approved to be reviewed again in October 2007.
- 6.5 In order for the Panel to review the Leader's Allowance, attached to this report at Appendix A is a breakdown of Councils' Leader's responsibilities and special responsibility allowances paid for a number of local authorities with this Council's 'family group'.
- 6.6 Not all councils within the family group have been included in the appendix as information on leaders responsibilities for those councils was not readily available at the time of putting the information together, however those that have been included cover differing sizes of authority, both in terms of demographic and geographical location, so there is still a broad range of information for the Panel to take account of.
- 6.7 Any recommendations made by the Panel will be presented to the meeting of Council to be held on 11 December 2007 for consideration by Members.

## **7. Other Options Considered**

- 7.1 None. The Panel recommended that these areas be reviewed in October 2007.

## **8. Appropriate Consultations**

- 8.1 None.

## **9. Financial and Efficiency Implications**

- 9.1 The Council will need to consider the budgetary implications when it considers the recommendations of the Panel.

## **10. Exempt Information**

- 10.1 None.

## **11. Appendix to this report**

- 11.1 Appendix A – Councils' Leaders' Portfolio Responsibilities

## **12. List of Background Papers**

- 12.1 Members Allowances Report – Independent Remuneration Panel 02 July 2007.

- 12.2 Minutes (9:2007/2008 refers) – Independent Remuneration Panel 02 July 2007.
- 12.3 Recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel Report – Council 10 July 2007.
- 12.4 Minutes (106:2007/2008 refers) – Council 10 July 2007.

The following Officers have been consulted (identified by ✓):

- Head of Paid Service
- S. 151 Officer
- ✓ Monitoring Officer