

**Blaby District Council
Council**

Date of Meeting	31 January 2023
Title of Report	Recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel
	This is not a Key Decision and is not on the Forward Plan
Report Author	Corporate Services Group Manager
Corporate Priority	All Priorities: A Place to Live; A Place to Work; A Place to Visit; People Strategy; Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS)

1. What is this report about?

- 1.1 To advise Members of Council of the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel.

2. Recommendation(s) to Council

2.1 To follow

2.2 To follow

2.3 To follow

3. Reason for Decisions Recommended

3.1 To follow

3.2 To follow

3.3 To follow

4. Matters to consider

- 4.1 Background

The Independent Remuneration Panel was established under the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 to provide advice and recommendations to the Council on amounts to be paid under its Members' Allowances Scheme. Members of the Panel are appointed by the

Council and are independent members of the community.

The Council is required to have regard to the Panel's recommendations in determining the Member Allowances Scheme. Additionally the Council must also publish the Panel's recommendations and conclusions, together with the approved scheme.

The Panel Members:

The Panel consists of the following Members:

- Luke Pulford – Chairman of the Panel
- Stephen Knott
- Anne Senior

Regulations stipulate that Members of the Panel must not be a Member of the Council, or of a Sub-Committee of the Council, or be disqualified from being a Member of an authority.

Scope of Work for the Panel:

1. Consideration of the 2022/23 Pay Award
2. To consider any amendments to the Members' Allowance Scheme from May 2023

Meetings of the Panel

25 November 2022

The Panel was provided with a briefing from the Corporate Services Group Manager and the Executive Director (S.151 Officer) on the Council's current budget position and the scope of work that the Panel were tasked with.

4 January 2023

The Panel met on 4 January 2023 and were supported by Officers of the Council.

To assist the Panel in its recommendations to Council, the Panel considered the following:

- Current Members Allowances Scheme
- Comparison of Local Authorities (benchmarked data) position regarding pay award if known
- Summary Comparison Document – Member Allowances
- Pay Increase Comparison
- Application of %age average increases
- Breakdown of expense claims

An invitation was sent to all Councillors inviting them to provide any representations for the Panel to consider. One verbal representation was provided to the Panel. No additional representations were received.

Next Steps

To follow

4.2 Proposal(s)

To follow

4.3 Relevant Consultations

All District Councillors were written to on 19 December 2022 to provide any verbal or written representations to the Panel to consider at its meeting on 4 January 2023.

4.4 Significant Issues

Legal implications:

It is a requirement of the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 that an Independent Panel on Members' Allowances may decide to put forward recommendations for the Council to consider.

It is for the Council to decide on the Members' Allowances Scheme that is put in place, having regard to the Panel's recommendations.

5. What will it cost and are there opportunities for savings?

5.1 To follow

6. What are the risks and how can they be reduced?

6.1 Not applicable.

7. Other options considered

7.1 None. Members are required to have due regard to the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel when determining the Member Allowances Scheme.

8. Environmental impact

8.1 Not applicable.

9. Other significant issues

- 9.1 In preparing this report, the author has considered issues related to Human Rights, Legal Matters, Human Resources, Equalities, Public Health Inequalities, and Climate Local and there are no areas of concern.
- 9.2 Significant issues relating to legal implications have been addressed at paragraph 4.4.

10. Appendix

- 10.1 None.

11. Background paper(s)

- 11.1 4 January 2023 – [Agenda of the Independent Remuneration Panel](#)

12. Report author's contact details

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