

**TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL**

Your Ref /  
Eich Cyf

Our Ref / Ein MT  
Cyf

Date / Dyddiad 18/08/2009

Ask for / Mike Thomas  
Gofynner am

Direct Dial / 01352 702324  
Rhif Union

Fax / Ffacs

Dear Sir / Madam,

A **SPECIAL MEETING OF THE FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL** will be held in the **COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, MOLD** on **MONDAY, 24 AUGUST 2009** at **14:00** to consider the following items.

Yours faithfully



Assistant Director (Democratic Services)

**A G E N D A**

1. **PRAYERS**
2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
4. **APPOINTMENT OF AN INDEPENDENT MEMBER TO THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE**  
Report of Monitoring Officer enclosed
5. **FURTHER CONSULTATION BY THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL FOR WALES**  
Report of Head of Legal and Democratic Services enclosed

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Neuadd y Sir, Yr Wyddgrug. CH7 6NR  
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The Council welcomes correspondence in Welsh or English  
Mae'r Cyngor yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg neu'r Saesneg

6. **NOTICE OF MOTION**

The following Notice of Motion has been submitted by Councillor A Woolley:-  
"That work as a Member Champion be added to the list of approved duties in the Members' Allowance Scheme with effect from 1 April 2009"

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985 - TO  
CONSIDER THE EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

The following item is considered to be exempt by virtue of Paragraph(s) 15 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

7. **SINGLE STATUS - OUTCOME OF NEGOTIATIONS**

Report of Chief Executive enclosed

## FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 4

**REPORT TO:** **SPECIAL MEETING OF THE FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**DATE :** **24 AUGUST 2009**  
**REPORT BY:** **MONITORING OFFICER**  
**SUBJECT :** **APPOINTMENT OF AN INDEPENDENT MEMBER TO THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

### **1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.01 To seek the approval of the County Council to a process for the selection of a nominee to be appointed to the Council's Standards Committee.

### **2.00 BACKGROUND**

2.01 The term of office of one of the independent members of the Standards Committee has come to an end and it will be necessary to advertise for a new member to replace her as soon as possible.

### **3.00 CONSIDERATIONS**

3.01 In the advertisement, it will be necessary to set out the eligibility criteria, eg. that he or she should not be a Member, an Officer or the spouse of a Member or an Officer of Flintshire County Council, another County Council, a County Borough Council, a National Park Authority, a Fire Authority or a Community Council. Former Officers or Members of this Authority are ineligible to become independent members of the Standards Committee although there are exceptions in relation to Officers of the Local Authorities that were disbanded on Local Government Reorganisation.

3.02 Independent members will need to be able to meet the time commitment involved and have some flexibility to adjust that commitment given that there may be some uncertainty over the exact amount of time required.

3.03 It is suggested that the appointments process for persons expressing an interest and eligible for appointment will be considered against the criteria set out below. Ideally they should:-

1. be of good character and integrity
2. not actively participate in Local or National Politics
3. not have had significant previous dealings with the Authority
4. not have a close relationship with any Member or Officer of the Authority
5. have listening skills
6. have the ability to understand and weigh up evidence
7. have the ability to come to an objective view and explain that view by

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Date: 18/08/2009

- reference to the evidence
- 8. have team working skills
- 9. have respect for others and an understanding of diversity issues
- 10. have discretion.

3.04 In addition to the qualities outlined above, consideration should be given to diversity in the light of the balance of the Committee as a whole, eg. does the Committee as a whole represent a reasonable reflection of the communities served by the Council and its geographical spread.

3.05 An Appointments Panel needs to be set up to include a lay Member and a Member of a Community or Town Council. As the Standards Committee is required to have a majority of independent members over elected Members, it is suggested that the Panel is also similarly constituted. It is suggested there be a lay member, a Community Council Member and one elected Member of Flintshire County Council.

3.06 Once the Appointments Panel has considered all applications received, it will make nominations for approval by the County Council, hopefully at the next ordinary meeting of the County Council.

#### **4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS**

4.01 That the Monitoring Officer be given authority to advertise for applicants for the place that has become vacant on the Standards Committee.

4.02 That the eligibility and evaluation criteria set out in this record be approved.

4.03 That an Appointments Panel be set up consisting of a lay Member, a Community Council Member and an elected Member.

4.04 That the Monitoring Officer be given delegated powers to appoint an appropriate lay Member to chair the Appointments Panel in consultation with the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the County Council.

4.05 That the Community Council Member be a Community Council Member presently appointed to the Standards Committee. If this becomes inappropriate due to any conflict of interest, the Monitoring Officer be given delegated authority to appoint a Community Council Member in consultation with the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the County Council.

4.06 That the County Council appoint an elected Member to sit on the Appointments Panel.

4.07 That the recommendations of the Appointments Panel be reported to the next ordinary meeting of the County Council if possible.

#### **5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.01 None

**6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT**

6.01 None

**7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

7.01 None

**8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT**

8.01 Appointments would be made in accordance with the Council's Equal Opportunities Policy and appropriate parts of the Recruitment and Selection Procedure.

**9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

9.01 None

**10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED**

10.01 None but the vacancy must be advertised in the local press.

**11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN**

11.01 None. The Council is required to make an appointment.

**12.00 APPENDICES**

12.01 None

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985**  
**BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

As referred to in the report.

Contact Officer: Barry Davies  
Telephone: 01352 702344  
E-Mail: barry\_davies@flintshire.gov.uk

## FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 5

**REPORT TO:** **SPECIAL MEETING OF THE FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**DATE :** **24 AUGUST 2009**  
**REPORT BY:** **HEAD OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES**  
**SUBJECT :** **FURTHER CONSULTATION BY THE INDEPENDENT  
REMUNERATION PANEL FOR WALES**

### **1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.01 To inform members of further consultation being undertaken by the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales and to consider a response on behalf of the Council.

### **2.00 BACKGROUND**

2.01 The Local Authorities (Allowances for Members) (Wales) Regulations 2007 provided for the establishment of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales. The Panel's initial report was issued in July 2008 and its supplementary report in December 2008. Both reports have previously been considered by the Council. The Panel is currently undertaking a comprehensive review of the range and levels of allowances available to Councillors and co-opted members.

2.02 Members of the Independent Remuneration Panel have visited all the authorities in Wales as part of the consultation exercise. Members of the Panel visited Flintshire on the 23 April 2009 and met a range of members and officers.

2.03 Following the visits to local authorities the Panel have issued a consultation paper and a response form seeking observations by the 4 September 2009. It is indicated that this consultation forms the final part of the Panel's "root and branch" review of the framework for allowances for members of County and County Borough Councils. The Panel seeks views on its emerging thoughts which will determine the framework and maximum levels of allowances payable for the financial year 2010/2011 and thereafter.

2.04 Copies of the consultation paper and response form have been sent to all members to make individual responses by the requested date of the 4 September 2009. This report is to enable a corporate response on behalf of the Council.

2.05 The consultation paper and response form was considered at a meeting to which the Leader, Group Leaders and senior officers were invited on 12 August. There was a large degree of agreement at that meeting as to responses to the 47 questions raised in the response form.

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Date: 18/08/2009

### **3.00 CONSIDERATIONS**

3.01 Whilst each member is free to make their individual response to the Independent Remuneration Panel, a corporate response on behalf of the Council would carry weight with the Panel.

3.02 The first issue raised in question 1 of the response form is that of terminology. The consultation documentation seeks views on changing the references from allowances to salary and from allowance schemes to remuneration schemes. Whatever terminology is adopted it should be consistent. At present the legislation, regulations and members code of conduct all refer to allowances. As members are not employed it is believed references to salary and remuneration are inappropriate and that allowances should continue to be the terminology used.

3.03 In the consultation paper paragraphs 3.3 to 3.8 list the following guiding principles for Councillors allowances.

- Clarity
- Recompense
- Accountability
- Quality
- Consistency
- Acceptability

Question 6 of the response form asks if these are agreed.

3.04 It is suggested that in addition to these principles simplicity and greater external determination of allowance should be added. Whilst the paragraph on clarity does contain a reference to simplicity, some of the proposals in the consultation paper would increase complexity. It is therefore believed that simplifying the existing regime should be a principle in its own right. It is also believed that as far as possible Councillors should not determine their own allowances but these be set by some external body. Whilst some flexibility should be left to individual Councils to accommodate differing local circumstances, it is believed that any such local discretion should not alter the total amount of basic and special responsibility allowances only how that amount is shared between individual members. Those proposals in the consultation paper moving toward this are to be welcomed.

3.05 Questions 19 and 28 raise the issue of removing special responsibility allowances for Vice Chairs (other than the Vice Chair of the Standards Committee). It is believed that Councils should retain the ability to pay special responsibility allowances to Committee Vice Chairs and that these should be included in band 4. Where a Chair is absent the Vice Chair takes on the role and the Vice Chair's role is valuable in itself.

3.06 Question 34 raises the issue of discontinuing the care allowance after 2010/2011. It is believed that this would be a retrograde step and discourage existing members or potential members who have caring responsibilities, which would be contrary to equal opportunity principles.

3.07 Whilst the above paragraphs deal with important issues that are raised by the consultation documentation, a suggested complete corporate response to all of the questions raised is attached as **Appendix 1** to this report. If during consideration there is not a significant majority view on a point, it may be decided that there should be no corporate response on that particular point and that it be left to individual members responses.

#### **4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS**

4.01 For Council to consider making a corporate response in the terms set out in appendix 1 to this report.

#### **5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.01 None as a result of this report.

#### **6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT**

6.01 None as a result of this report.

#### **7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

7.01 None as a result of this report.

#### **8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT**

8.01 To discontinue care allowance after 2010/2011 would disadvantage those with caring responsibilities.

#### **9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

9.01 None as a result of this report.

#### **10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED**

10.01 This is a consultation exercise by the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales.

#### **11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN**

11.01 The Leader and Group Leaders have been consulted.



## **12.00 APPENDICES**

12.01 Appendix 1 - Suggested corporate response to consultation

### **LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985** **BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

Consultation paper and response form from the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales.

Contact Officer: Peter J Evans  
Telephone: 01352 702304  
E-Mail: peter\_j\_evans@flintshire.gov.uk

# INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL FOR WALES

## ‘Way Forward’ Policy Consultation: July 2009 Response Form

You are invited to complete the responses below (explanatory details in the accompanying Consultation Paper), indicating agreement or otherwise to the Panel’s determinations and recommendations for 2010/2011 and proposals for 2011/2012 and beyond, giving any further comment you wish.

You need not give your name, but it would help in the analysis to know your council and whether you hold special responsibility within your council.

Name Flintshire County Council

Council .....

Special Responsibility Post (please detail the post held)

.....

### Common Issues of Terminology and Determination

#### Proposed Panel Determinations for 2010/2011

1 That the “Basic Allowance” be referred to as “Basic Salary” (denoting recompense for time, worth and responsibility rather than entitlement as at present).

Agree  Disagree

2 That the annual up rating index for Basic Allowance, Special Responsibility Allowance and Co-optees Allowance continues to be the projected public sector pay award and that the Retail Price Index (RPI) continues to be used for the annual up rating of the Care Allowance and the Subsistence Allowance.

Agree  Disagree

Comment: It would be simpler if there was just one index. It is not believed that the retail prices index would be appropriate. The annual up rating should be linked to the actual public sector pay award when known and backdated to the start of the financial year.

Proposed for 2011/2012 and Beyond

- 3 That the Panel prescribes the level of Basic Allowance to be payable in Wales (in place of setting the maximum as at present).

Agree  Disagree

- 4 That the Panel prescribes the level of Leaders' Special Responsibility Allowance to be payable in Wales and any consequent matrix of allowances for special responsibility.

Agree  Disagree

- 5 That the Panel monitors the implementation of members' remuneration schemes by councils.

Agree  Disagree

Comment: It is bad for the public perception of Councils that Members decide their own allowances. As far as possible some external body should determine Members' allowances. There is no need for the panel to monitor implementation of Allowance Schemes as there are already adequate checks, such as Monitoring Officer, Section 151 Officer and Audit.

**Principles of Councillors' Remuneration**

- 6 Do you agree the Principles the Panel wishes to adopt?

Agree  Disagree

Comment: It is also believed that principles of simplicity and increased external determination of allowances should be added.

**Basic Allowance**

Proposed Panel Determinations for 2010/2011

- 7 That the Basic Allowance be reset in line with the All Wales full-time male and female median salary which in 2008/2009 was £22,115 pa. In this alignment, remunerated public service set at the equivalent of three working days per week, results in an (indicative) Basic Allowance of £13,269 pa.

Agree  Disagree

8 That the Basic Allowance for 2010/2011 be set at the equivalent of three working days derived from the 2009/2010 All Wales full-time male and female median salary when advised.

Agree  Disagree

9 That the Basic Allowance for 2010/2011 be uprated in line with the public sector pay increase when advised.

Agree  Disagree

10 That the “public sector discount” be reconceptualised to denote the unremunerated time committed in excess of three working days per week.

Agree  Disagree

11 That the support expenses element of around £1,000 included in the £13,356 maximum Basic Allowance for 2009/2010 be discontinued (**note:** the 2008/2009 alignment of £13,269 does **not** include the support element of £1,000).

Agree  Disagree

Comment: £1,000 for expenses should be added to the £13,356. Support expenses differ from one Member to another according to their personal circumstances. If basic allowance was no longer to include for expenses there would be increased pressure for Councils to buy computers for Members and meet other Member expenses. The only fair and efficient way of doing so would be through Councils providing the same support to all Members, irrespective of their personal circumstances.

#### Proposed Panel Recommendations for 2010/2011

12 That councils note the discontinuation of support expenses included in councillors’ Basic Allowance and consider direct provision to meet such supports as are necessary for the efficient discharge of councillor duties.

Agree  Disagree

13 That councils consider negotiating block tax dispensations for their elected membership in respect of office expenses in the councillor’s home.

Agree  Disagree

- 14 That councils, in association with the WLGA, consider adopt and publish a statement of basic responsibility setting out councillor duties in regard to democratic representation and local governance.

Agree  Disagree

- 15 That councils, in association with the WLGA, consider, and where possible implement, mechanisms and formats for the annual reporting of activity, attendance and relevant training for each member, to be placed in the public domain.

Agree  Disagree

Comment: The effectiveness of a Councillor can not be judged by recording activity, attendance and relevant training. Those Councillors who maximise use of modern technology could be wrongly perceived as under performing. Some of the points in 14 and 15 are already covered by the WLGA Charter for Member support and development..

#### Proposed for 2011/2012 and Beyond

- 16 That adoption of a basic responsibility statement for councillors becomes obligatory.

Agree  Disagree

- 17 That annual reporting in the public domain of each councillor's activity, attendance and relevant training becomes obligatory.

Agree  Disagree

Comment: See comment under 15 above.

### **Special Responsibility Allowances (SRAs)**

#### Proposed Panel Determinations for 2010/2011

- 18 That, for the purpose of determining the scope and complexity of Special Responsibility Allowances, councils be grouped by population as follows:

**Group A:** (population over 200,000)  
Cardiff; Rhondda Cynon Taf; Swansea

**Group B:** (population 100,000 to 199,999)  
Bridgend; Caerphilly; Carmarthenshire; Conwy;  
Flintshire; Gwynedd; Neath Port Talbot; Newport;  
Pembrokeshire; Powys; Vale of Glamorgan;  
Wrexham

**Group C:** (population below 100,000)  
Blaenau Gwent; Ceredigion; Denbighshire;  
Isle of Anglesey; Merthyr Tydfil; Monmouthshire;  
Torfaen

Agree  Disagree

Comment: Whilst a simplification through the reduction of population bands to only three is to be welcomed it is suggested there be a more even split of authorities such as Group C being under 125,000, Group B being over 125,000 to 180,000 and Group A being over 180,000.

19 That, for the purpose of determining the level of responsibility within councils, the following responsibility bands will apply:

**Band 1** Leaders of councils in a leader and cabinet executive  
Chairs of Boards in councils operating alternative arrangements

**Band 2** Members of Executives in leader and cabinet executives  
Members of Boards in councils operating alternative  
arrangements

**Band 3** Leader of the largest Opposition Group  
Chairs of Overview and Scrutiny Committees  
Chairs of Planning; Chairs of Licensing;  
Chairs of Audit

**Band 4** Leaders of other political groups (as defined in the  
2002 Regulations).

**The Panel will consider specific requests from councils for a SRA  
outside of those set out in this matrix**

Agree  Disagree

Comment: The reduction in the current number of bands is to be welcomed. Band 4 should include for SRAs for Vice Chairs. It is also believed that Leaders of all groups should be eligible for SRA and the existing definition in the regulations amended to accommodate this.

20 That, in line with the population grouping of councils, the Panel will set the total amount available for the remuneration of members of cabinets and boards, with each council setting the individual remuneration of each cabinet/board member up to the total amount identified.

Agree  Disagree

21 That the Panel will use multiples (varying with population grouping) of the All Wales full-time male and female median earnings in the 2009/2010 index when available, as the baseline for setting Leaders/Chairs Special Responsibility Allowances (£22,115 in the 2008/2009 index).

Agree  Disagree

22 That the Panel will set the remuneration for Deputy Leaders/Vice Chairs at 65% of the Leaders' remuneration in each population grouping.

Agree  Disagree

23 That the Panel will set the remuneration for Cabinet/Board members as a percentage of the Leaders' remuneration in each population grouping.

Agree  Disagree

24 That the Panel will use multiples of the new Basic Allowance derived from the 2009/2010 index when available (£13,269 in the 2008/2009 index) as the baseline for setting a single SRA applicable across all Welsh unitary councils for the functional roles of chairs of Audit, Licensing, Planning and Scrutiny Committees, and leaders of the largest and other political groups.

Agree  Disagree

25 That the Panel will publish a consolidated total of Basic Salary + Special Responsibility Allowance as the remuneration for Leaders and all special responsibility post holders.

Agree  Disagree

26 That the Panel will term this consolidated amount 'Senior Salary' or 'Executive Salary'.

Agree  Disagree

Comment: Basic and Special Responsibility Allowances should be kept separate as this is more transparent and administratively easier. It is inappropriate to describe them as salaries as Members are not employed by the Council.

Proposed Panel Recommendations for 2010/11

27 That all councils publish widely all public service payments received by their members at least once a year. This should include payments and expenses for all public appointments.

Agree  Disagree

28 That councils consider whether, consequent on the Panel's decision to remove SRAs from vice-chairs, they can publicly justify any increase in the number of committees attracting a SRA to the 50% maximum.

Agree  Disagree

Comment: SRAs should not be removed from Vice Chairs. Chairs are not always available and in such circumstances the Vice Chair takes on the Chair's role. Sometimes the Vice Chair role is a form of Member development. Even if SRAs for Vice Chairs were to be removed it is down to individual Councils to decide the number of SRAs up to the 50% maximum in the regulations.

Proposed for 2011/2012 and Beyond

29 That the Panel considers further the current 50% limit on special responsibility posts held in councils.

Agree  Disagree

Comment: It is down to individual Councils to decide the number of SRAs up to the 50% maximum.

**Care Allowance**

Proposed Panel Determinations for 2010/2011

30 That the Care Allowance (set at a maximum of £403 per month for 2009/2010) continues to be available to facilitate all councillor activity, as a contribution towards the costs of caring for adult and child dependants.

Agree  Disagree



31 That the Care Allowance be reimbursed only upon the production of receipts from informal and formal carers for actual expenses incurred, up to £403 per month (2009/2010 maximum).

Agree  Disagree

Comment: Whilst receipts should be obtained they may be relatively informal.

#### Proposed Panel Recommendations for 2010/2011

32 That councils bring the “salary sacrifice scheme” to the attention of the elected membership as an alternative means of assisting with child-care costs.

Agree  Disagree

33 That councils consider introducing more flexibility in the scheduling of meetings/meetings cycles to assist councillors with caring responsibilities (and those in less flexible employment).

Agree  Disagree

Comment: In Flintshire this has already been done pursuant to a requirement of the WLGA Charter for Member support and development.

#### Proposed for 2011/2012 and Beyond

34 That consideration be given to discontinuing the Care Allowance as a separate allowance when the Basic Allowance may be at a level which better assists in meeting caring costs.

Agree  Disagree

Comment: This would be backward thinking and very disappointing. It would deter those with caring responsibilities from standing as Councillors and would be contrary to equal opportunity principles.

## Co-optees' Allowance

### Proposed Panel Determinations for 2010/2011

- 35 That the annual remuneration for co-optees reflects an expected position of attendance at six meetings. At the levels set for 2009/2010 this would raise the statutory co-optees' allowance to a maximum of £1,200 per year and that for Chairs of Standards Committees to a maximum of £2,230 per year.

Agree  Disagree

- 36 That where independent vice-chairs of Standards Committees carry a demonstrable additional responsibility (usually for Community and Town Councils) the remuneration be based on an expected position of attendance at seven meetings. This would result in an annual allowance of a maximum of £1,400.

Agree  Disagree

Comment: It seems inconsistent that independent Vice Chairs of Standards Committee have an SRA when other Vice Chairs would not. All Vice Chairs should have SRAs.

### Proposed for 2011/2012 and Beyond

- 37 That the Panel considers extending the eligibility for the Care Allowance to statutory co-optees.

Agree  Disagree

- 38 That the Panel considers whether statutory co-optees are eligible to claim more than one allowance when they sit on more than one council committee.

Agree  Disagree

## Travel and Subsistence Allowances

### Proposed Panel Determinations for 2010/2011

- 39 That the Panel maintains the maximum mileage allowance payable at HMRC rates:

*All sizes of private motor vehicle  
up to 10,000 miles – 40p per mile  
over 10,000 miles – 25p per mile*

*passenger supplement – 5p per mile*

*private motor cycles – 24p per mile*

*pedal cycles – 20p per mile*

Agree  Disagree

40 That the Panel increases the overnight allowance for London to a maximum of £150.

Agree  Disagree

41 That the Panel introduces a new overnight allowance for Cardiff at a maximum of £120.

Agree  Disagree

Comment.....

.....

.....

#### Proposed Panel Recommendations for 2010/2011

42 That all arrangements for travel outside the council's area (including overseas travel) be arranged by Member Services.

Agree  Disagree

43 That councils negotiate with HMRC for identified named rural wards only, an increase in the 10,000 mileage allowance at the 40p rate.

Agree  Disagree

44 That councils consider further whether it is necessary, given the receipt based nature of claims made, to reduce the flexibility intended in setting a daily subsistence rate, by setting fixed cost elements for constituent meals.

Agree  Disagree

Comment: These are not large amounts and provided receipts are submitted flexibility should be encouraged rather than reduced.

Proposed for 2011/2012 and Beyond

- 45 That consideration be given to removing the ability to claim subsistence allowance for 'approved duty' within a council's boundaries.

Agree  Disagree

- 46 That consideration be given to extending the definition of 'approved duty' to include constituency duties for the purposes of claiming a mileage allowance in council identified named rural wards.

Agree  Disagree

- 47 That consideration be given to developing a Green Travel Policy, including discussing with HMRC more favourable mileage rates for low carbon emission cars, and an increased passenger supplement.

Agree  Disagree

Comment: It is believed that this should be left to individual Councils. When the panel has concluded its current work that should be the end of its work for this electoral cycle. There should be a review once every subsequent electoral cycle.

Thank you for your help.

Please return this Response Form by **Friday, 4 September** by email or post to:

[Caroline.thomas@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Caroline.thomas@wales.gsi.gov.uk)

Caroline Thomas  
Secretariat  
Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales  
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New Crown Buildings  
Cathays Park  
Cardiff CF10 3NQ

## **FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL - EXEMPT INFORMATION SHEET**

COMMITTEE: Special Meeting of the Flintshire County Council

DATE: 24 August 2009

AGENDA ITEM NO: 7

REPORT OF: (Director of originating Department)

Chief Executive

SUBJECT:

SINGLE STATUS - OUTCOME OF NEGOTIATIONS

**The report on this item is NOT FOR PUBLICATION because it is considered to be exempt information in accordance with the following paragraph(s) of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.**

	<u>Para</u>	
Information relating to a particular individual *	12	
Information likely to reveal the identity of an individual *	13	
Information relating to financial/business affairs of a particular person * See Note 1	14	
Information relating to consultations/negotiations on labour relations matter *	15	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Legal professional privilege	16	
Information revealing the authority proposes to:	17	
(a) give a statutory notice or		
(b) make a statutory order/direction *		
Information on prevention/investigation/prosecution of crime *	18	
<u>For Standards Committee meetings only:</u>	Sec.	
Information subject to obligations of confidentiality	18a	
Information relating to national security	18b	
The deliberations of a Standards Committee in reaching a finding	18c	
<u>Confidential</u> matters which the County Council is not permitted to disclose	Sec. 100A(3)	

### **PLEASE TICK APPROPRIATE BOX**

\* Means exempt only if the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Note 1: Information is not exempt under paragraph 14 if such information is required to be registered under Companies Act 1985, the Friendly Societies Acts of 1974 and 1992, the Industrial and Provident Societies Act 1965 to 1978, the Building Societies Act 1986 or the Charities Act 1993.

**SCHEDULE 12A LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972  
EXEMPTION FROM DISCLOSURE OF DOCUMENTS**

**REPORT:** SINGLE STATUS - OUTCOME OF  
NEGOTIATIONS  
**AUTHOR:** Chief Executive  
**MEETING AND DATE  
OF MEETING:** Special Meeting of the Flintshire County  
Council on 24 August 2009

I have considered grounds for exemption of information contained in the report referred to above and make the following recommendation to the Proper Officer:-

**Exemptions applying to the report:**

Paragraph 15.

**Factors in favour of disclosure:**

Transparency.

**Prejudice which would result if the information were disclosed:**

Disclosure could jeopardise the agreement which has been reached with the relevant unions.

**My view on the public interest test is as follows:**

The public interest test favours non-disclosure.

**Recommended decision on exemption from disclosure:**

Exempt under Paragraph 15.

**Date:** 17/08/2009



**Post:** Head of Committee, Members and Electoral Services

I accept the recommendation made above.



Proper Officer

Date: 17/08/2009