

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: **FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

DATE: **TUESDAY, 12 MAY 2015**

REPORT BY: **CHIEF OFFICER, GOVERNANCE**

SUBJECT: **SCHEDULE OF MEMBER REMUNERATION**

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.01 The purpose of the report is to approve the Council's Schedule of Member Remuneration for the Council year 2015/16.

2.00 BACKGROUND

2.01 In February 2015 the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales (IRPW) issued its annual report. That report determines what payments can be paid to Members and co-opted members for the Council year 2015/16. Flintshire must implement the report from the date of its annual meeting. A copy of the IRPW report has been placed in the Members' library and in the group rooms.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

3.01 The IRPW has decided for 2015/16 there should be no changes to any of the amounts of payments. The basic allowance payable to all elected Members remains at £13,300 p.a. Appendix 1 shows the additional amounts payable to those Members who have additional responsibilities resulting from posts they hold.

3.02 In relation to payments to the Civic Head and Deputy the IRPW gives local choice to Councils as to which of three bands it wishes to apply as indicated below. Last year the Council determined that the middle band was the appropriate one for Flintshire.

Remuneration of Civic Heads and Deputy Civic Heads (includes "basic salary" of £13,300 p.a.)		
	Civic Heads	Deputy Civic Heads
a)	£24,000	£18,000
b)	£21,500	£16,000
c)	£19,000	£14,000

- 3.03 One decision the IRPW has made in this year's report is requiring each authority, through its Democratic Services Committee, to ensure that all its members are given as much support as is necessary to enable them to fulfil their duties effectively. It goes on to state that all elected Members should be provided with adequate telephone and e-mail facilities and electronic access to appropriate information without any cost to the individual Member. This will be the subject of a report to the next meeting of the Democratic Services Committee.
- 3.04 The IRPW have recently issued a suggested proforma for use when drafting schedules of Member remuneration. Whilst not mandatory Councils are encouraged to use the proforma amended to suit the authority's particular circumstances. Whilst a schedule must be produced no later than 4 weeks after the annual meeting it may be amended at any time during the year. It is recommended that at the annual meeting the Council approves the existing format of the schedule of Member remuneration, merely changing the Council year to which it relates. There will then be a report to the July Democratic Services Committee on the IRPW's suggested proforma adapted to suit Flintshire's particular circumstances. If agreed by Democratic Services Committee this could then be adopted at the subsequent Council meeting to replace the existing format.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.01 For Council to decide which of the three bands of payments should be chosen for payment to the Council Chair and Vice Chair (see paragraph 3.02 above).
- 4.02 For Council to approve the schedule of Member remuneration shown in Appendix 2 updated to apply to 2015/16.
- 4.03 To agree the further reports to Democratic Services Committee referred to in paragraphs 3.03 and 3.04 above.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.01 The payments can be accommodated within the budget provision for Members Allowances.

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 None as a result of this report.

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.01 None as a result of this report.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 With political Group Leaders.

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 With political Group Leaders.

12.00 APPENDICES

12.01 Appendix 1 – Additional Payments to Members
Appendix 2 – Schedule of Member Remuneration

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

IRPW's annual report for 2015/16

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