

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: **FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

DATE: **THURSDAY, 23 JULY 2015**

REPORT BY: **CHIEF OFFICER (GOVERNANCE)**

SUBJECT: **SCHEDULE OF MEMBER REMUNERATION**

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.01 To consider amending the format of the Council's Schedule of Member Remuneration to reflect recent guidance issued by the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales ("The Panel").

2.00 BACKGROUND

2.01 The Panel has recently issued a proforma to assist authorities in producing their Schedules of Member Remuneration. This proforma is attached as Appendix 1. In issuing the proforma the Panel has explained that it is not mandatory to use the exact proforma and it should be amended for each authority's particular circumstances. The Council is free to revise its schedule during the year.

2.02 At the annual meeting on the 12 May 2015 the Schedule of Member Remuneration shown in Appendix 2 was updated to apply to 2015/16, whilst noting that the proforma would be considered later.

2.03 At its meeting on the 1 July 2015 the Constitution Committee considered adopting the new format of the Council's Schedule of Member Remuneration.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

3.01 The Panel have issued the proforma in response to recent instances of non-compliance by some authorities (not Flintshire) surrounding the required contents of Schedules of Member Remuneration. This has been discussed by the Panel at regional meetings of authorities such as the one held for North Wales authorities earlier in the year.

3.02 It is considered that the Panel's proforma has certain provisions that are clearer than in the Council's existing schedule. It is also considered that there are some provisions in the Council's existing schedule that should be added to the Panel's proforma such as the introduction, definitions and detailed provisions concerning travel and subsistence allowances. Attached as Appendix 3 is a recommended revised Schedule of Member Remuneration seeking to combine the

best parts of the Panel's proforma and the Council's existing schedule.

3.03 This report was considered by the Constitution Committee at its meeting on the 1 July 2015. It was resolved that the new format be adopted.

3.04 The Committee also asked that:

- The additional responsibilities of those receiving allowances from other public bodies such as the Fire and Rescue Authority should be explained, which has been amended in the schedule at Appendix 3; and
- Officers consider whether it is possible to include allowances that councillors receive from other bodies such as APSE. This is still under investigation.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.01 For the Council to approve adopting the new format of the Schedule of Member Remuneration as agreed by the Constitution Committee at its meeting on the 1 July 2015.

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 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 None as a result of this report.

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 None as a result of this report.

12.00 APPENDICES

- 12.01 Appendix 1 – Flintshire current Schedule of Member Remuneration
Appendix 2 – Proforma Schedule of Member Remuneration
Appendix 3 – Revised Schedule of Member Remuneration

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT) 1985 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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