

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Date of Meeting	Tuesday, 12 December 2017
Report Subject	Recommendation from the Clwyd Pension Fund Committee
Report Author	Chief Officer (Governance)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At the meeting of Council on 24th October, the Annual Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales (IRPW) was considered. Within the regulations, Flintshire can pay up to 18 senior salaries. Since Council allocated those 18 senior salaries to Cabinet members, Committee chairs and the Leader of the largest opposition group, we have set up the Clwyd Pension Fund committee. The work and profile of that committee has increased considerably, but Council was unable to pay a senior salary to the committee chair, because the allocation had been used up.

Council agreed to apply to the IRPW for a specific, additional salary to be paid to the Chair of the Clwyd Pension Fund Committee. Determination 8 provides for such an application to be made. The payment which is made to committee chairs as a senior salary is £8,700, in addition to the basic £13,400 which is paid to all councillors. The proposal would be to pay the Clwyd Pension Fund Committee chair on the same basis as other committee chairs.

In discussing the specific issue about the Chair's allowance with the IRPW, it has been established that the Clwyd Pension Fund is not in the remit of the IRPW, and therefore any allowances which are recharged to the Pension Fund are a matter for the Council, as the administering authority for the Fund.

The Clwyd Pension Fund Committee, at its meeting on 29th November agreed to make a recommendation to Council that an allowance of £8,700 be paid to the Chair of the Clwyd Pension Fund Committee, which will be back dated to the start of the municipal year. This means that the Clwyd Pension Fund Committee chair would be paid the same as the other committee chairs.

The Council is invited to approve an allowance of £8,700 to the Chair of the Clwyd Pension Fund Committee, which will be back dated to the start of the municipal year. This cost will be borne by the Clwyd Pension Fund.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	The Council approves an allowance of £8,700 to the Chair of the Clwyd Pension Fund Committee, which will be back dated to the start of the municipal year, 18 th May 2017.
2	That details of the payment be included within the Council's Schedule of Member Remuneration as being additional to the regulated 18 senior salaries.

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	PAYMENT OF A SENIOR SALARY TO THE CHAIR OF THE CLWYD PENSION FUND COMMITTEE
1.01	For several years, the number of senior salaries (this excludes the civic salaries) which a Group B Council such as Flintshire has been able to pay has been fixed at 18. This provides payment to 8 Cabinet Members, (including the Leader and Deputy), 6 Overview & Scrutiny Chairs, the Chairs of Audit, Planning and Licensing and the leader of the largest opposition group. Since the Council decided that those posts identified above should be the 18 salaried posts for Flintshire, we have been required to set up a new committee, the Clwyd Pension Fund Committee. The work of that Committee is growing in scale and importance, particularly following the pooling arrangements where the Chair of the Clwyd Pension Fund will sit on a joint committee with the Chairs of the other 7 Pension Funds across Wales. On that basis it was considered reasonable to apply to the IRPW for a specific, additional salary to be paid to the Chair of the Clwyd Pension Fund Committee. Determination 8 provides for such an application to be made.
1.02	In discussing the specific issue about the Chair's allowance with the IRPW, it has been established that the Clwyd Pension Fund is not in the remit of the IRPW, and therefore any allowances which are recharged to the Pension Fund are a matter for the Council, as the administering authority for the Fund.
1.03	The Clwyd Pension Fund committee, at its meeting on 29 th November agreed to make a recommendation to Council that an allowance of £8,700 be paid to the Chair of the Clwyd Pension Fund Committee, which will be back dated to the start of the municipal year.

2.00 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

2.01	The additional £8,700, if approved will be paid from the Clwyd Pension Fund.
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3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	The IRPW were consulted on this proposed payment.

4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	The role of the Chair is a key part of the overall risk management of the Fund.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	None

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	<p>Report to Council on 24th October 2017 – Draft IRPW Report for 2018. Report to the Clwyd Pension Fund Committee 29th November 2017</p> <p>Contact Officer: Robert Robins, Democratic Services Manager Telephone: 01352 702320 E-mail: Robert.robins@flintshire.gov.uk</p>

7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
7.01	<p>IRPW – Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales is the independent body established by the Welsh Government to determine the level of Local Authority payments to Members.</p> <p>Determinations - the decisions which the IRPW makes</p> <p>Senior Salary - a senior salary is payable to a Councillor with special responsibility such as the Leader, Deputy Leader, Cabinet Members, Committee Chairs and the leader of the largest opposition group (a Group B Council such as Flintshire may pay up to 18 senior salaries).</p> <p>The Fund – Clwyd Pension Fund – The Pension Fund managed by Flintshire County Council for local authority employees in the region and employees of other employers with links to local government in the region</p> <p>Administering authority or scheme manager – Flintshire County Council is the administering authority and scheme manager for the Clwyd Pension Fund, which means it is responsible for the management and stewardship of the Fund.</p>

	<p>The Committee – Clwyd Pension Fund Committee - the Flintshire County Council committee responsible for the majority of decisions.</p>
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