




Haringey Council

Report for:	ANNUAL COUNCIL 21 MAY 2012	Item number	
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Title:	Making the Members' Allowances Scheme for 2012/13
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Report authorised by :	Chief Executive 
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Lead Officer:	Clifford Hart, Democratic Services Manager Tel: 0208 489 2920
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Ward(s) affected: N/A	Report for Key/Non Key Decision: N/A
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1. Describe the issue under consideration
 - 1.1 Every year the council is required, in accordance with the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003, to adopt a Members' Allowances Scheme to run from 1 April to 31 March the following year.
 - 1.2 This report recommends to full Council the Members' Allowances Scheme for the period 1 April 2012 to 31 March 2013 as set out at Appendix 1.

2. Cabinet Member Introduction

N/A

3. Recommendations

3.1 That Members resolve to revoke the current Members' Allowances Scheme as from 31 March 2012.

3.2 That Members resolve to adopt the Members' Allowances Scheme for 1 April 2012 – 31 March 2013 as set out in Appendix 1 to this report, and to adopt this as the replacement for Part 6 of the Council's Constitution.

4. Comments of the Chief Financial Officer and Financial Implications

The Chief Financial Officer has reviewed the proposed changes to the Members' Allowances scheme and confirms that the financial impact is cost neutral and will be met from the cash limited budget for allowances.

5. Head of Legal Services and Legal Implications

The legal implications have been considered within the body of this report and in the drafting of the Appendix 1.

6. Report

- 6.1 The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 require local authorities to make a scheme of allowances for their members at the start of each municipal year. There is nothing to prevent full Council from amending the Scheme later in the year should it wish to do so, but a Scheme can only be revoked with effect from the beginning of each year.
- 6.2 The regulations stipulate that before a Council can agree or amend its Members' Allowances Scheme, it must consider recommendations made to it by an Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP), whose members cannot be members of the same authority. London Councils (formerly the Association of London Government) acts as the IRP for the London Boroughs. The most recent London Councils IRP report was published in 2010 (attached at Appendix 2). The Council has previously taken these recommendations into account, and the report of the IRP has been considered in the preparation of the Scheme which is subject of this report.
- 6.3 Appendix 1 to this report shows the recommended changes to the Scheme. Table A details the Scheme and allowances applicable for the period 1 April to 20 May 2012 and Table B details the Scheme and allowances applicable for the

period 21 May 2012 to 31 March 2013. Changes to the Scheme are shown in italics and underlined.

- 6.4 The current statutory Standards Committee will be abolished with effect from the implementation of the new regime, likely to be from 1 July 2012. This is subject to Regulations to implement the attendant sections of the Localism Act 2011. Changes to the Council's code of conduct and standards regime are the subject of a further report on this agenda. It is proposed to offer the same remuneration to the Chair of the new politically proportionate Standards Committee as the current Independent Chair of the Standards Committee, from such time as any new Committee is to take effect.

7. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

Background papers

The following papers have been used in the preparation of this report and can be inspected at River Park House, 225 High Road Wood Green, London, N22 8HQ by contacting Clifford Hart on 020 8489 2920:

8. Equalities and Community Cohesion Comments

The Council has a public sector equality duty under S149 of the Equality Act 2010 to have due regard to need to:

- tackle discrimination and victimisation of persons that share the characteristics protected under S4 of the Act. These include the characteristics of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex (formerly gender) and sexual orientation;
- advance equality of opportunity between people who share those protected characteristics and people who do not;
- foster good relations between people who those characteristics and people who do not.

Policy and Equalities Team were consulted in the preparation of this report and that the proposals outlined in the report carry no apparent implications for any aspect of the duty outlined above.