

## **REPORT OF STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

### **FULL COUNCIL 20 MARCH 2017**

Chair: Councillor Amin

#### **INTRODUCTION**

The Council is required, under the Local Authorities (Members Allowances) (England) regulations 2003, to adopt a Members' Allowances Scheme for the following financial year by 31 March each year.

This report from the Standards Committee of 7 March 2017 recommends that Full Council revoke the Members Allowance Scheme for 2016/17 and approve the new Members Allowance Scheme for 2017/18, to take effect from 1 April.

#### **MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES 2017/18**

We considered the report on the Members' Allowance Scheme and noted it was a statutory requirement to agree an allowance scheme by 31 March for the following financial year.

We agreed that there was a need to not increase the overall cost of allowances for Members, but that it would be appropriate to offer statutory co-optees on the Combined Pensions Committee and Board an allowance equivalent to the statutory co-optees on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. As the Combined Pensions Committee and Board was established in the course of the last municipal year, this would represent a change from the 2016/17 Scheme.

We agreed there was a need for a fundamental review of the allowances scheme, and that that should take place over the municipal year 2017/18. This will ensure the 2018/19 scheme considered by full Council in March 2018 is appropriate for the Council elected in May 2018. We agreed it would be helpful there to be wider consultation in the course of that review.

#### **WE RECOMMEND**

That Full Council:

1. Revoke the Members Allowance Scheme for 2016/17 as of 31 March; and
2. Approve the proposed new Members' Allowances Scheme for 2017-18, as set out in appendix 1 of the attached report, to take effect from 1 April 2017.