

Report for: Annual Council 27 May 2021

Title: Financial statement of allowances paid to Members 2020/21

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Ward(s) affected: All

**Report for Key/
Non Key Decision:** Non Key Decision

1. Describe the issue under consideration

1.1 To note the end of year statement for 2020/21 of allowances paid to Members.

2. Cabinet Member Introduction

N/A

3. Recommendations

3.1 That the allowances paid to each Member, as set out at Appendix 1, be noted.

4. BACKGROUND

4.1 The Council Meeting on 19 March 2020 agreed that the Members Basic Allowance percentage increase be index linked to the local government officer pay percentage increase, capped at 2% to be reduced if a lesser percentage is agreed, and to be paid in the 2020/21 municipal year once the staff pay award had been finalised. This was implemented in September 2020 and information at Appendix 1 reflects this. To note that Members did not agree, on the 18th of March 2021, to continue with the index link for the coming financial year in view of the current economic climate.

4.2 The scheme is made in accordance with the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003. The regulations indicate that agreement and adoption of the scheme is the responsibility of full Council and will continue to be so within any new arrangements set out in the Constitution which the Council is required to adopt under the Local Government Act 2000.

4.3 This report indicates the amounts paid to Members in 2020/21, as detailed at Appendix 1.

4.4 The allowances that can be paid include:

- basic allowance
- special responsibility allowance
- childcare and dependent carers' allowance
- travel (outside M25 area only)

4.5 Arrangements must be made for publication of the total amount paid to each member, including basic, special responsibility and childcare/dependent carers' allowance, after the end of the year to which the scheme relates. These are set out for 2020/21 in Appendix 1.

5. Comments of the Director of Finance and Financial Implications

5.1 The Chief Financial Officer confirms that the allowances paid during 2020/21 were within the budget provision for the year.

6. Comments of the Head of Legal and Governance and Legal Implications

6.1 All payments made are in accordance with the Members Allowances Scheme approved annually by the Council.

7. Use of Appendices

7.1 Appendix 1 – Statement of Members' Allowances 2020/21

8. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

8.1 Background documents:

- Appointments to Committees and Members' Allowances Scheme 2020/21

8.2 The background papers are located at River Park House, 225 High Road, Wood Green, London N22 8HQ.

8.3 To inspect them or to discuss this report further, please contact Ayshe Simsek on 0208 489 2929.