



Haringey Council

Report for:	FULL COUNCIL 24 MARCH 2014	Item number	7 (iii)
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Title:	Making the Members' Allowances Scheme for 2014/15
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Report authorised by :	Chief Executive <i>N. Walker</i>
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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 2014 to 31 March 2015 as set out at Appendix 1.
- 1.3 In terms of the proposed amounts payable for Members Allowances for the period 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015, with the exception of an additional special responsibility allowance to be payable to the Chair of the newly established Pensions Committee, there are no changes in the amounts to be paid and these are the same as those paid for the previous period from 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014.

2. Cabinet Member Introduction

N/A

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 That Members resolve to revoke the current Members' Allowances Scheme as from 31 March 2014.
- 3.2 That Members resolve to adopt the Members' Allowances Scheme for 1 April 2014 – 31 March 2015 as set out in Appendix 1 to this report, and to adopt this as the replacement for Part 6 of the Council's Constitution, with the additional special responsibility allowance to be paid to the Chair of the newly established Pensions Committee.

4. Comments of the Chief Finance Officer and Financial Implications

- 4.1 The Chief Finance Officer has reviewed the proposed changes to the Members' Allowances scheme and confirms that there is sufficient budget provision within 2014/15 cash limits to cover the costs of the proposed scheme.

5. Assistant Director of Corporate Governance comments and Legal Implications

- 5.1 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 2014 to 31 March 2015. Changes to the Scheme are shown in italics and

underlined. There will be an additional special responsibility allowance to be paid to the Chair of the new Pensions Committee. Save for this addition there are no changes in the amounts to be paid and these are the same as those paid for the previous period from 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014.

7. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

N/A

8. Equalities and Community Cohesion Comments

8.1 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.

8.2 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.