

REPORT OF THE
Employment in Hampshire County Council Committee
PART I

1. REVIEW OF THE MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME 2023/24

- 1.1. The legislative framework governing the payment of Members' Allowances is set out in the Local Authorities (Members Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 (as amended) ('the Members' Allowances Regulations').
- 1.2. Under the provisions of the Members' Allowances Regulations the County Council is required to make a Scheme ('Members' Allowances Scheme') for the payment of Members' Allowances each year. A Members' Allowances Scheme needs to make provision for Basic Allowances, Special Responsibility Allowances ('SRAs'), Dependents' Carers' Allowances, Travelling and Subsistence Allowances and Co-optees' Allowances.
- 1.3. Once a Members' Allowances Scheme is made for any year it may be amended during the year in question in accordance with the Members' Allowances Regulations. It is also possible under the Members' Allowances Regulations for any amendment to the Members' Allowances Scheme to be backdated to the beginning of the financial year in which any such amendment is made.
- 1.4. By virtue of the Members' Allowances Regulations, before the County Council can make or amend a Members' Allowances Scheme, it is required to have regard to recommendations made in relation to it by an Independent Remuneration Panel ('IRP'). In this regard the IRP met on 7 September 2023.
- 1.5. The Employment in Hampshire County Council ('EHCC') Committee met on 2 November 2023 to consider the recommendations of the IRP, and to make recommendations to the County Council in respect of amendment (if appropriate) to the Members' Allowances Scheme for 2023/24. The report considered by EHCC, including the minutes of the IRP meeting can be viewed here [EHCC - 2 November 2023](#). (NB: at the time of publication of this item, the EHCC Committee had not yet met to consider this matter. An update on EHCC's consideration and any additional recommendations will be provided as soon as possible).

2. Amendment to Members' Allowances Scheme 2023/24

Recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel in relation to amendment of the Members' Allowances Scheme for 2023/24 are set out below, together with the EHCC Committee's views and conclusions on them.

2.1. 12-month review of Special Responsibility Allowance – Deputy Leader

Recommendation of the IRP

That there be no change to the current SRA for the Deputy Leader of the County Council.

Consideration of IRP Recommendation

At the time of publication of this item, the EHCC Committee is still to consider the IRP's recommendations. An update on the EHCC Committee's considerations, and any additional recommendations will be provided as soon as possible.

2.2. 12-month review of Special Responsibility Allowance – Opposition Group Leaders

Recommendation of the IRP

That there be no change to the level of SRAs for the Opposition Group Leaders.

Consideration of IRP Recommendation

At the time of publication of this item, the EHCC Committee is still to consider the IRP's recommendations. An update on the EHCC Committee's considerations, and any additional recommendations will be provided as soon as possible.

12-month review of Special Responsibility Allowance – Opposition Group Spokesperson

Recommendation of the IRP

That there be no change to the level of SRAs for Opposition Group Spokespersons.

Consideration of IRP Recommendation

At the time of publication of this item, the EHCC Committee is still to consider the IRP's recommendations. An update on the EHCC Committee's considerations, and any additional recommendations will be provided as soon as possible.

2.3. Special Responsibility Allowance – Members of the Pension Fund Panel and Board

Recommendation of the IRP

That an SRA for members of the Pension Fund Panel and Board was not appropriate.

Consideration of IRP Recommendation

At the time of publication of this item, the EHCC Committee is still to consider the IRP's recommendations. An update on the EHCC Committee's considerations, and any additional recommendations will be provided as soon as possible.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the County Council, taking into account the recommendations of the IRP, and subject to consideration and any further recommendations by the EHCC Committee approves:

- a) No changes to the current SRA for the Deputy Leader of the Council.
- b) No changes to the level of SRAs for the Opposition Group Leaders.
- c) No changes to the level of SRAs for the Opposition Group Spokespersons.
- d) That no new SRAs for Pension Fund Panel and Board members is created.