



REPORT of INDEPENDENT MEMBERS REMUNERATION PANEL

**to
FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE
29 JANUARY 2018**

MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES - INDEPENDENT MEMBERS REMUNERATION PANEL UPDATE

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To consider the recommendations put forward by the Independent Members Remuneration Panel (IMRP) (the Panel), having held three meetings on 5 November, 19 November and 26 November 2018.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

To the Council:

- (i) That a Members' Mileage and Expenses Policy be introduced;
- (ii) That the allowance currently paid to Area Committee Chairmen be reduced to 50% of the existing rate.

3. SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 The Council is required to establish and maintain an independent remuneration panel. The purpose of the Panel is to make recommendations to the Council about the allowances to be paid to Members. The Panel will make recommendations about the level of basic allowance for all Members, the level of Special Responsibility Allowances (SRA) and to whom they should be paid, and on whether dependants' carers' allowance, travel and subsistence allowances should be paid and the level of these allowances.
- 3.2 The IMRP met three times in November 2018 to consider the introduction of a Members' Mileage and Expenses policy and to consider the level of allowance which is currently paid as a Special Responsibility Allowance to Area Planning Committee Chairmen. During these meetings the Panel met with all Area Planning Committee Chairmen and the Leader of the Council. The recommendations of the panel are set out in **APPENDIX A** and the minutes of the first meeting which was attended by officers are set out in **APPENDIX B**.
- 3.3 The rationale for the above recommendations is clearly stated by the panel in **APPENDIX A** alongside the detailed evidence that the panel considered in forming their views.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 The recommendations of the IMRP should be put forward for consideration by the Council.

5. IMPACT ON CORPORATE GOALS

- 5.1 Making decisions about Member allowances in this way relates to the core value of being transparent and accountable.

6. IMPLICATIONS

- (i) **Impact on Customers** – None.
- (ii) **Impact on Equalities** – None.
- (iii) **Impact on Risk** – None.
- (iv) **Impact on Resources (financial)** – If these recommendations are approved then there would be an annual saving of up to £3,625 depending on whether any of the Area Planning Committee Chairmen held the role of Leader or Deputy Leader of the Council.
- (v) **Impact on Resources (human)** – None.
- (vi) **Impact on the Environment** – None.

Background Papers: None.

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