

<b>REPORT TO:</b>	COUNCIL
<b>DATE:</b>	28 FEBRUARY 2024
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME AND INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL REPORT
<b>PURPOSE:</b>	TO CONSIDER RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL AND APPROVE A MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME FROM 1 APRIL 2024
<b>KEY DECISION:</b>	N/A
<b>PORTFOLIO HOLDER:</b>	N/A
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	John Medler - Assistant Director for Governance and Monitoring Officer
<b>REPORT AUTHOR:</b>	Ann Good - Democratic Services Manager
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	N/A
<b>EXEMPT REPORT?</b>	NO

#### **SUMMARY**

The Council is required to agree its Members' Allowances Scheme by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 and in doing so must have regard to the recommendations made to it by the East Lindsey Independent Remuneration Panel.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. That the Council considers whether to approve the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) into its Members' Allowances Scheme from the 1 April 2024 and to include the associated financial implications into the 2024/25 budget. The recommendations are detailed at page 5 of the IRP's Report (Appendix A to this report).

## **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Council's current Members' Allowances Scheme ceases on 31 March 2024. The Council is required to agree its future Members' Allowances Scheme and in doing so must have regard to the recommendations made to it by the Independent Remuneration Panel.

## **OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

The recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel are non-binding and therefore the Council could choose to approve all, some or none one of the Panel's recommendations when making its Members' Allowances Scheme. The Council may also choose to make alternative amendments to its Members' Allowances Scheme as long as these have regard to the report and recommendations of the Panel.

## **1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1** A full review of East Lindsey District Council's Members' Allowances Scheme (the Scheme) is undertaken every 4 years. The current Scheme is due to cease on 31 March 2024.

## **2. REPORT**

- 2.1** The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 require that before making or amending a Members' Allowances Scheme, an authority shall have regard to the recommendations of an Independent Remuneration Panel (The Panel) set up specifically to advise on the matter.

## **3. CONCLUSION**

- 3.1** The Panel has undertaken a review of the Council's Members' Allowances Scheme and its report and recommendations are attached as Appendix A. It is now for the Council to consider these recommendations when agreeing its Members' Allowances Scheme from 1 April 2024.

## **EXPECTED BENEFITS TO THE PARTNERSHIP**

*None.*

## **IMPLICATIONS**

### **SOUTH AND EAST LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCILS' PARTNERSHIP**

*None.*

## **CORPORATE PRIORITIES**

*None.*

## **STAFFING**

*The work of the Independent Remuneration Panel has been supported by the Democratic Services Manager and the Scrutiny and Policy Officer.*

## **WORKFORCE CAPACITY IMPLICATIONS**

*None.*

## **CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

*The Local Authorities (Members' Allowance) (England) Regulations 2003 sets out the legislative framework relating to the review and approval of the Council's Members' Allowances Scheme. The Panel has undertaken its review in line with this legislation and it is for the Council to approve its Scheme with regard to the Panel's report and recommendations.*

*The Council is responsible for making or amending its Members' Allowances Scheme but must have regard to the Panel's recommendations.*

*There are statutory obligations in respect of advertising the recommendations and making copies of the same available for public inspection.*

## **DATA PROTECTION**

*None.*

## **FINANCIAL**

The financial implications of the Panel's recommendations are contained in the finance proforma at the end of this report. The actual financial impact will depend upon what is agreed by Council. Any additional revenue costs as agreed by the Council will be funded from either in year underspends, reserves or added to the efficiency requirement.

## **RISK MANAGEMENT**

None.

## **STAKEHOLDER / CONSULTATION / TIMESCALES**

Details of the consultation undertaken by the Panel are set out in Appendix A.

The current scheme expires at the end of March, therefore a decision on the scheme is required at this meeting.

## REPUTATION

None.

## CONTRACTS

None.

## CRIME AND DISORDER

None.

## EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY/ HUMAN RIGHTS/ SAFEGUARDING

There are not considered to be any significant equality and diversity implications arising from this report. Allowances are fixed without the consideration of the individual post holder. A Carer's Allowance is included in the scheme. It is not considered necessary to undertake an equality impact assessment.

## HEALTH AND WELL BEING

None.

## CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Provision is made within the Scheme for Members' Allowances for the payment of travelling allowances when attending certain meetings and events. A payment for carrying additional passengers is recommended to continue. This is aimed at encouraging car sharing, reducing the Council's carbon footprint.

## LINKS TO 12 MISSIONS IN THE LEVELLING UP WHITE PAPER

None.

## ACRONYMS

*IRP: Independent Remuneration Panel*

<b>APPENDICES</b>	
Appendices are listed below and attached to the back of the report: -	
<i>APPENDIX A</i>	<i>Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel</i>
<i>APPENDIX B</i>	<i>Benchmarking</i>
<i>APPENDIX C</i>	Members' Allowances Scheme

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Background papers used in the production of this report are listed below: -

<b>Document title</b>	<b>Where the document can be viewed</b>
Local Authorities (Members' Allowance) (England) Regulations 2003	<a href="https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2003/1021/contents/made">https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2003/1021/contents/made</a>

**CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF THIS REPORT**

*None*

**REPORT APPROVAL**

Report author:	Ann Good, Democratic Services Manager
Signed off by:	John Medler, Monitoring Officer and Assistant Director, Governance
Approved for publication:	John Medler, Monitoring Officer and Assistant Director, Governance

## FINANCE PROFORMA

PROFORMA FOR APPROVAL OF THE RELEASE OF RESOURCES

(CAPITAL AND REVENUE BUDGETS)

FROM: Stuart Leafe, Strategic Finance Manager.

THIS PROFORMA PROVIDES THE FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS  
IN RESPECT OF THE ATTACHED

REPORT: MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME AND INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL REPORT

REPORT DATE: 28<sup>th</sup> February 2024

<b>OPTION 1</b>	<b>£ Year 1 2024/25</b>	<b>£ Year 2 2025/26</b>	<b>£ Year 3 2026/27</b>	<b>£ Year 4 2027/28</b>
<b>Revenue</b>				
Planning Policy Vice Chair	239	246	252	259
Executive Board Member	7,748	7,980	8,180	8,384
Deputy Leader	1,563	1,610	1,650	1,691
Co-opted Independent Member of A&G Committee	1,300	1,339	1,372	1,407
<b>Total Revenue Cost</b>	<b>10,850</b>	<b>11,175</b>	<b>11,454</b>	<b>11,741</b>

### Funding required:

Total capital cost      £ -

Revenue cost 24/25      £10,850

### Considered by:

Enter committee here

Enter Council or  
Cabinet/Executive here

### Date:

### Financial Services Comments

The table above indicates the cost increase from rates approved for 23/24, that includes the 6.60% uplift. Figures in 2024/25 do not factor in a 3.50% increase in line with estimated pay award but in later years 25/26 (3.00%) and 26/27 to 27/28 (2.50%) have been applied consistent with the assumption made in the MTFS.

### Risk

### Procurement

### Value for Money Efficiency

This FP is valid for 3 months from FP date	If this FP is no longer required please advise Finance	If there are changes to the original report it may invalidate this document, it must be reviewed by Finance.