

# Council

## Members' Allowances - 2011/2012

21 February 2011

### Report of Head of Legal and Democratic Services

#### PURPOSE OF REPORT

To consider and determine the levels of the allowances to be paid to Members for the forthcoming 2011/2012 financial year following the submission of the report of the Council's Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) on the review of the 2010/2011 Members' Allowances Scheme.

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| This report is public |
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#### Recommendations

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The meeting is recommended:

- (1) To consider the levels of allowances to be included in the 2011/12 Members' Allowances Scheme, (that is recommending no change to the levels agreed for 2010/11) and whether the Panel's recommendations should be adopted or modified in any way.
- (2) To authorise the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to prepare an amended Members' Allowances Scheme, in accordance with the decisions of the Council for implementation with effect from 1 April 2011.
- (3) To authorise the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to take all necessary action to revoke the current (2010/11) Scheme and to publicise the revised Scheme pursuant to The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 (as amended).
- (4) To thank the Independent Remuneration Panel for its thorough and detailed report and set a fee of £300 for IRP Panel Members for the work carried out in 2010/11 and propose the same level of fee for 2011/12.



## Consultations

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**All Members of Cherwell District Council**

Comments have been considered by the Panel

**All Parish Councils**

Comments have been considered by the Panel

## Implications

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### **Financial:**

Provision has been included in the draft 2011/2012 budget for Members' Allowances. There are principally three options available in terms of settling the levels of the allowances for the forthcoming financial year as follows:-

- (1) to adopt the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel including the increase in the basic allowance and Special Responsibility Allowances – the full year cost can be accommodated within the draft budget as mentioned above;
- (2) to alter the levels of the allowances over and above those recommended by the Panel although this would increase the provision included in the draft budget.

Comments checked by Karen Curtin, Head of Finance 01295 221551

### **Legal:**

It is a legal requirement of the Council to consider the report of the Independent Remuneration Panel and to set the level of allowances.

Comments checked by Liz Howlett, Head of Legal & Democratic 01295 221686

### **Risk Management:**

There are no risks associated with the report other than the possibility of exceeding the budget provision.

Comments checked by Rosemary Watts, Risk Management & Insurance Officer 01295 221566

## Wards Affected

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All

## Document Information

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| <b>Appendix No</b>         | <b>Title</b>                                     |
|----------------------------|--|
| Appendix 1                 | Report of IRP Panel                              |
| <b>Background Papers</b>   |  |
| None                       |  |
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