

Item no.

Report to: **District Council of Easington**
Date: **3 April, 2008**
Report of: **Head of Democratic Services and Administration**
Subject: **Independent Remuneration Panel Report**
Ward: **All**

1. **Purpose of Report**

To consider the report of the Independent Remuneration Panel in relation to the payment of allowances to Members for 2008/2009.

2. **Consultation**

In preparing this report I have consulted with the Leader of the Council, Executive Member for Resources, Director of Finance and Corporate Services and Payroll Manager.

3. **Background**

- 3.1 The Panel was first established in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 2000 and the Local Authorities (Members Allowances) (England) Regulations 2001 and has produced a number of reports in relation to the remuneration of Members.

The Panel comprises of the following membership:-

S. Allen - former Director of Finance, Durham City Council
Professor R. Hudson - Director of Durham University
Canon K. Woodhouse
H. Pattison - former Public Relations Officer for Asda

4. **Position Statement**

- 4.1 In accordance with the Local Authorities (Members Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 and the Panel's Report dated 17 September 2003, the Panel were required to meet to consider the levels of allowances payable to Members for 2008/9.

The Panel's meeting took place on 5th February, 2008 and their findings and recommendations are set out in their report attached at Appendix 1.

5. **Implications**

5.1 **Legal**

The proposals contained within the report meet the requirements of the Local Authorities (Members Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003.

5.2 **Policy**

The proposals contained within the report meet with the established policy of receiving recommendations in relation to members allowances from an Independent Remuneration Panel.

5.3 **Financial**

Appropriate provision has been made within the budgets for members allowances for 2008/2009.

5.4 **Local Government Review**

The report does not contain proposals which have specific implications in respect of the local government review. The Panel's recommendations are for a period of one year only from 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009.

5.4 **Risk**

A risk assessment has been carried out and risks identified are within the corporate appetite.

5.5 **Communications**

The Panel's recommendations are available for public inspection and will be placed on the Council's website.

6. **Corporate Implications**

There are no corporate implications. The report has been produced in accordance with statutory requirements.

7. **Recommendations**

- 7.1 Members are requested to give consideration to the recommendations of the Panel as outlined in Section 5 of their report.

Background Papers/Documents Referred to:-

Local Authorities (Members Allowances) (England) 2003
Panel Reports dated 17 September 2003 and 7 February 2007

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