

County Council

23 March 2011



Members Allowances

Report of Head of Legal and Democratic Services

Purpose of the Report

1. The attached report sets out the Independent Remuneration Panel's recommendations in relation to basic and special responsibility allowances for 2010.

Background

2. The Acts and Regulations provide the statutory backdrop for the provision of allowances for Elected Members.
3. 2003 regulations require each authority to decide its scheme and the amount to be paid under the scheme. Councils are required to establish and maintain an Independent Remuneration Panel to provide advice on the scheme and the amounts to be paid amongst other things but local authorities must have regard to this advice.

The Remuneration Panel

4. Panel members are:

Lady Ann Calman
John Cuthbert
John Hitchman
Professor Ray Hudson
Gill Stephenson
Andrew Sugden
Kate Welsh

The Work of the Panel

5. The Panel in reaching its conclusions and recommendations researched the comparator allowances in a number of authorities.

Recommendations

6. The Panel recommends:
 - No change to current Member allowances.
 - No allowances for Cabinet Support Members.
 - No further Regulatory Committee allowances.

7. Members are asked to approved these allowances with effect from April 2010. The Panel will be requested to meet again in Spring 2011 in order to consider allowances from 2011. It is then hoped that in future years, this work will be carried out in advance of the financial year concerned.