

<b>DECISION-MAKER:</b>	GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE COUNCIL		
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	MEMBERS' ALLOWANCE SCHEME		
<b>DATE OF DECISION:</b>	17 NOVEMBER 2014 19 NOVEMBER 2014		
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	Head of Legal and Democratic Services		
<b><u>CONTACT DETAILS</u></b>			
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<b>STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY</b>	
N/A	
<b>BRIEF SUMMARY</b>	
Under the Local Government (Members Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003, local authorities are required to have Independent Remuneration Panels for the purpose of reviewing their schemes of Members' Allowances. Southampton City Council is required to review its scheme by September 2015 at the latest and have regard to the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel.	
<b>RECOMMENDATIONS:</b>	
<b>GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE</b>	
	(i) To consider and comment on the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel as set out on in the Panel's report (attached as appendix 1).
<b>COUNCIL</b>	
	(i) To consider the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel as set out in the Panel's report (attached as Appendix 1);
	(ii) To make any amendment to the Council's Constitution accordingly; and
	(iii) To thank the members of the Independent Remuneration Panel for their work in reviewing the Members' Allowance Scheme.
<b>REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	
1.	Under the Local Authorities (Members Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003, Southampton City Council is required to have an Independent Remuneration Panel review the Members' Allowance Scheme within 4 years of the date that the scheme was approved.

2.	Council last reviewed and approved the Members' Allowance Scheme on 14th September 2011. The Basic and Special Responsibility Allowances have not been revised since the scheme was approved in 2007.
3.	Council has a duty to have regard to the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel when making or amending the scheme of allowances.
<b>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED</b>	
4.	Council is required to approve a Members' Allowance Scheme by September 2015 in order to comply with The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003. The options are:- (i) to approve the report of the Independent Remuneration Panel (ii) to amend the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel (iii) to reject the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel and consider alternative proposals.
<b>DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)</b>	
5.	The attached report (Appendix 1) of the Independent Remuneration Panel details the reasons and rationale for the recommendations made by the Panel.
6.	The Council is required by law to appoint an Independent Remuneration Panel, established for the purpose of considering the Members' Allowances, prior to making any decision to amend, revoke or replace the existing scheme of allowances. The recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel which met three times during October 2014 are set out in Appendix 1.
<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>	
<b><u>Capital/Revenue</u></b>	
7.	If all the recommendations set out in the report are implemented with a commencement date of 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2015, this will result in an ongoing annual saving of £15,000 from 2015/16. However this figure will need to be re-calculated if any variation or partial implementation is approved and the budget impact amended accordingly.
<b><u>Property/Other</u></b>	
8.	None
<b>LEGAL IMPLICATIONS</b>	
<b><u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u></b>	
9.	Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) 2003
<b><u>Other Legal Implications:</u></b>	
10.	None
<b>POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS</b>	
11.	None

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

**Appendices**

1. Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel

**Documents In Members' Rooms**

1. None

**Equality Impact Assessment**

Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) to be carried out.

No

**Other Background Documents**

**Equality Impact Assessment and Other Background documents available for inspection at:**

Title of Background Paper(s)

Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)

1. None