

17 September 2015

7. INTERIM REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL ON COUNCILLORS' ALLOWANCES

Recommendation

- 1. The Head of Legal and Democratic Services recommends that:**
 - (a) the interim report of the Independent Remuneration Panel on the Members' Allowances Scheme be endorsed,**
 - (b) Council notes that the Panel will report again in Autumn 2016; and**
 - (c) the term of office of the current members of the Independent Remuneration Panel be extended for the remainder of the life of this Council.**

Background Information

2. Members will recall that the Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) is a statutory body established to provide advice and recommendations to the Council on its Members' allowances scheme and amounts to be paid under it. Council itself decides the scheme and any amendments having regard to the IRP's report. Members of the IRP are appointed to it by the Council but are independent of it.

3. The IRP has made a number of reports to the Council, most recently in July 2012. The Panel has now been re-convened and has met a number of times, hearing from Group Leaders and the Chief Executive and considering a range of information which is detailed in its report (to follow).

4. This interim report sets out the Panel's conclusions and recommendations on members' allowances from 1 April 2016 for consideration by Council. The Panel also intends to carry out a more fundamental review over the next year in order to consider what recommendations to make in respect of the new Council from May 2017. A further report to Council is therefore planned for Autumn 2016.

Term of office of current members

5. Some of the members of the IRP have served for a number of years and the term of office for most will expire in November this year. Given that the Panel are part way through an important piece of work and that continuity of membership at this point would be both constructive and helpful, the Head of Legal and Democratic Services recommends that the present members' terms of office be extended for the remainder of the life of this Council i.e. until May 2017.

6. The current members of the IRP are Professor Michael Clarke (Chairman) - Formerly Vice-Principal and Pro Vice-Chancellor – University of Birmingham; Mr Leslie Gunde - public representative; Professor Paul Jackson - University of Birmingham; Mr Andrew Manning-Cox - Partner – Wragge Lawrence Graham & Co LLP, and Mr Richard Quallington - community and voluntary sector.

Contact Points

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Specific Contact Points for this Report

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Background Papers

In the opinion of the Proper Officer (in this case the Head of Legal and Democratic Services) the following are the background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

Agenda papers and minutes for the Council meeting held on 16 July 2009, 17 February 2011, 18 November 2011, 5 July 2012 and 14 February 2013.