

Report of the North Tyneside Independent Remuneration Panel

November 2017

Executive Summary

The views of the Independent Remuneration Panel are required to be taken into account by the Council when considering any changes to the Members' Allowances Scheme. The Panel has been requested to consider and make recommendations in relation to the Members' Allowances Scheme for the 2018/19 financial year.

The Panel **recommends** that there be no change to the North Tyneside Members Allowance Scheme for 2018/19.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Remuneration Panel was initially appointed in 2003 under the provisions of the Local Authority (Members Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003. These regulations replaced the Local Authorities (Members Allowances) (England) Regulations 2001.
 - 1.2 The Terms of Reference are as follows: -
 - a) To consider issues and representations relating to Members' allowances and expenses.
 - b) To make recommendations and provide advice to the Council
 - 1.3 The current Panel was reappointed in 2017 and comprises of Mr John Anderson CBE, Mr Les Watson, formerly of the Audit Commission and Dr Rachid Zemouri, Managing Director of ICAS Limited
- ## 2.0 BACKGROUND
- 2.1 The Panel is requested to give consideration to the current Members' Allowances Scheme and to make recommendations on the level of allowance for 2018/19.
- ## 3.0 MEMBERS' ALLOWANCE SCHEME
- 3.1 Arrangements were made to allow the Panel to hear members' views to the level of member remuneration within the North Tyneside Members Allowance Scheme.

Representatives from the three political groups were sought and the views from members of the Conservative and Labour groups were received.

The view expressed was that the remuneration of members in North Tyneside was reasonable in the current climate.
 - 3.2 The Panel gave consideration to the Members' Allowances Scheme to determine if it was still set at an appropriate level.
 - 3.3 The Panel considers that no change be made to the Members Allowances Scheme for the 2018/19 financial year.
 - 3.4 The Panel continues to recognise that there may be need to review of special responsibility allowances to ensure that allowances reflect the level of duty/responsibility in the future, however it thought this was not the appropriate time for it to undertake such a review.
 - 3.5 The Panel **recommends** that there be no change to the Members Allowance Scheme for 2018/19.

4.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND REFERENCES

- The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003
- Previous reports of the Remuneration Panel
- Member's Allowances Schemes of Tyne and Wear Authorities, Mayoral Authorities and Statistical Neighbours
- Local Government Act 1972
- North Tyneside Council Constitution
- North Tyneside Members Allowances Scheme