



Meeting **COUNTY COUNCIL**

date **13th December 2007**

agenda item number

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To advise the Council of recent changes in the Members' Allowances Scheme in 2007/08.

2. Information and Advice

- 2.1 The Council approved the current Members' Allowances Scheme at its meeting in May 2006 in exercise of the powers conferred by the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003.

- 2.2 In approving the level of allowances at this time the Council determined that they should continue to be increased annually in line with the pay award for Local Authority employees. The Council also determined that each annual increase should be reported to the Council for information.

- 2.3 Local Government employees have received a pay award of 2.475% with effect from 1st April 2007. In the light of this award the allowances in the Scheme will be revised to the following levels:

- basic allowance - £12,435.00
- special responsibility allowance – an extract from the Scheme (Schedule 1) is appended to this report setting out these amounts
- dependents' carers' allowances - £5.63 per hour for child care and £11.16 per hour for other dependents
- allowances for statutory co-optees - £561 annual allowance
- financial loss for education appeal panel members – up to a maximum of £217.04 per day.

2.4 The Scheme has been revised to take account of these new rates for allowances. Travel and Subsistence Allowances remain unchanged at the present time and will be revised as rates change on a national basis.

3. Statutory and Policy Implications

3.1 This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, personnel, crime and disorder and users and where such implications are material they have been described in the text of the report.

4. RECOMMENDATION

4.1 That the report be noted.

Legal Services Comments (JMF 1.12.07)

The report is for noting and complies with the previous recommendations approved by Council as set out in the report.

Strategic Director (Resources) Financial Comments (MB. 1.12.07)

The additional cost is estimated at £33,388 and can be met from the budget for Members' Allowances.

Background Papers Available for Inspection

Details of Local Government Pay Award.

Electoral Divisions Affected

All.

SCHEDULE 1**SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY ALLOWANCES**

Band	% of Leader's SRA	Amount of Allowance (£p.a.)	Role
1	100	£30,744	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Leader of the Council
2	70	£21,519	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deputy Leader of the Council
3	66	£20,496	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cabinet Members with Portfolio• Chief Whip of Majority Group (in respect of his/her management of County Council business)• Leader of Minority Group (where the Group has at least 20% of the Council)
4	60	£18,447	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chair of Overview Scrutiny Committee
5	50	£15,372	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chairman of County Council*
6	40	£12,297	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 Vice-Chairs of Overview Scrutiny Committee• Chair of Joint Health Committee (when chaired by a County Councillor)
7	33	£10,248	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chair of the following Committees:-<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Planning & Licensing- Appeals- Audit- Standards (whether an elected County Councillor or a Co-opted Independent Member)- Pensions• Deputy Cabinet Members (without Portfolio)• Assistant Whip of the Majority Group• Leader of the third largest Group on the Council (provided the Group meets the statutory definition of a Group)**
8	25	£7,686	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vice-Chairs of Scrutiny Committees "A", "B", "C", & Vice-Chair of Joint Health Committee (when this position occupied by a County Councillor)

Band	% of Leader's SRA	Amount of Allowance (£p.a.)	Role
9	24	£7,380	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vice-Chairman of the County Council* • Chief Whip of the main Minority Group
10	22	£6,765	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deputy Leader of the Minority Group • Chair of the Administration Committee • Vice-Chair of the Appeals and Planning and Licensing Committees • Vice-Chairs of the Standards Committee • Assistant Whip of the main Minority Group • Group Secretary of the Majority Group • Main Minority Group Spokespersons on Cabinet Portfolios • Main Minority spokesperson on the Planning and Licensing Committee
11	11	£3,381	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Governors co-ordinator of the Main Minority Group
12	4	£1,230	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group Whip of the second Minority Group • Independent Member(s) of the Standards Committee
12	4	Amount of Allowance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ordinary Members of the Appeals Committee when undertaking work of exceptional frequency
		£1230	

* These SRAs include an element for clothing. Sections 3(5) and 5 (4) (as appropriate) of Part 1 of the Local Government Act 1972 enable the County Council to make a reasonable payment to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman to enable them to meet the expenses of their office.

** Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel published on 15th September 2003 and 10 May 2006.