

C100 Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel – Member Scheme of Allowances 2017/18

The recommendations from the Independent Remuneration Panel on Members' allowances for 2017/18 were considered by Council. The Panel restricted increases in allowance to the creation of a new allowance for the chairs of specific committees/panels. The Panel also recommended the abolition of the Broadband allowance. After consideration of the matter members felt that the Broadband allowance should remain as agendas were received electronically and correspondence was largely be email and that internet connections were essential to performing the role of councillor. Councillor Gillian Troughton asked whether a carer's allowance could be included to assist members who experience difficulty and additional costs in attending meetings. The Mayor agreed to refer this question to the Equalities Working Group for consideration and to report back.

RESOLVED – That

- (a) the allowances as set out at Appendix A to the report (and attached to these minutes) be approved as the Council's scheme of allowances for 2017/18;
- (b) with regard to allowances for Chairs that this be backdated to the 1st April 2016; and
- (c) that the question raised by Councillor Troughton, as set out above, be referred to the Equalities Working Group and a report on that matter be made to a future meeting of Council.