

## SECTION 3 : Statement of Accounts

### Note 11 - Councillor's Allowances & Expenses

The Council has decided to provide this additional note to provide a detailed breakdown of the Basic Allowance and Special Responsibility Allowances (SRAs) paid to individual Councillors for 2017/18.

This detailed disclosure exceeds the minimum legal requirements specified by the Government in "Statutory Instrument 2003 Number 1021 – The Local Authorities (Councillors Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003" which requires local authorities to publish details of the amounts paid to individual Councillors for each financial year for the following categories:

- Basic Allowance and Special Responsibility Allowances;
- Dependent Carers Allowance;
- Travelling and Subsistence Allowance; and
- Co-optees Allowances.

The Council paid no Dependent Carers Allowances or Co-optees Allowances in 2017/18 or 2016/17.

The detailed arrangements for paying the Basic Allowance, SRAs and other expenses are defined by specific rules in the Council's constitution. The key components of these rules are described below:

#### Basic and Special Responsibility Allowances

The value of the Basic and Special Responsibility Allowances (SRAs) paid by the Council are based on recommendations made by the Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP).

On 22nd June 2017 Council considered a report from the IRP detailing recommendations in relation to the Basic Allowance and Special Responsibility Allowances payable from 1st April 2017. The IRP had reviewed the allowances paid by the twelve North East Councils, including Hartlepool, and recommended increasing Hartlepool's Basic Allowance to £7,792. The IRP report to Council indicated that the adoption of this proposal would still result in Hartlepool having the second lowest Basic Allowance in the Tees Valley and the third lowest in the North East, as summarised in the following table:

#### Summary of Basic Allowances paid by North East Councils 2017/18

Authority	Basic Allowance £
Durham	13,300
Northumberland	13,029
Gateshead	10,446
North Tyneside	9,759
Redcar and Cleveland	9,550
Stockton	9,300
Newcastle	8,775
Sunderland	8,369
Darlington	8,027
Hartlepool	7,792
South Tyneside	7,289
Middlesbrough	6,130

The IRP also recommended that Special Responsibility Allowances should continue to be set as multiples of the Basic Allowance and recommended percentages for each of the positions carrying a Special Responsibility Allowance. An individual Member can only receive one Special Responsibility Allowance. Finally the IRP recommended that separate payments for telephone expenses and travel/subsistence within the borough should be removed, although travel and subsistence outside of its borough continues to be reimbursed. The recommendations of the IRP were approved by Council. A number of Members determined that they did not wish to receive the increased Basic Allowance and opted to claim a lower amount.

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**Table 1 - Councillor's Allowances & Expenses**

Councillor	Basic Allowance	Special Responsibility Allowance	General Travel	General Subsistence	Telephone Expenses	Total 2017/18
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Akers-Belcher C	7,792	23,376	799	121	-	<b>32,088</b>
Akers-Belcher S J	7,792	1,131	-	-	-	<b>8,923</b>
Barclay A	7,792	-	-	-	-	<b>7,792</b>
Beck P	7,792	6,619	-	-	-	<b>14,411</b>
Belcher S	7,792	-	-	-	-	<b>7,792</b>
Black J	5,953	889	-	-	-	<b>6,842</b>
Buchan B	7,792	-	-	-	-	<b>7,792</b>
Clark A	7,792	7,792	79	-	-	<b>15,663</b>
Cook R W	7,792	7,792	-	-	-	<b>15,584</b>
Cranney K H	7,792	7,792	128	153	-	<b>15,865</b>
Fleming T	5,953	-	-	-	-	<b>5,953</b>
Hall G G	7,792	-	-	-	-	<b>7,792</b>
Hamilton L	7,792	-	-	-	-	<b>7,792</b>
Harrison B	5,953	-	-	-	-	<b>5,953</b>
Hind T	7,792	-	-	-	-	<b>7,792</b>
Hunter D	5,953	5,089	-	-	-	<b>11,042</b>
James M A	6,013	873	-	-	-	<b>6,886</b>
Lauderdale J	7,792	-	-	-	-	<b>7,792</b>
Lawton P (01.04.17 - 25.09.17)	2,894	-	-	-	-	<b>2,894</b>
Lindridge J	7,792	-	-	-	-	<b>7,792</b>
Loynes B	7,792	4,675	-	-	-	<b>12,467</b>
Martin-Wells R	7,792	7,792	-	-	-	<b>15,584</b>
McLaughlin M (08.05.17 - 31.03.18)	5,393	-	-	-	-	<b>5,393</b>
Moore S	5,953	-	-	-	-	<b>5,953</b>
Morris G	7,792	-	-	-	-	<b>7,792</b>
Richardson C	6,013	-	-	-	-	<b>6,013</b>
Riddle D	5,825	-	-	-	-	<b>5,825</b>
Robinson J	7,792	-	-	-	-	<b>7,792</b>
Sirs K	7,792	-	-	-	-	<b>7,792</b>
Smith L (23.10.17 - 31.03.18)	2,699	-	-	-	-	<b>2,699</b>
Springer G A	7,792	-	-	-	-	<b>7,792</b>
Tennant J	5,953	1,880	-	-	-	<b>7,833</b>
Thomas S	6,013	6,013	30	-	-	<b>12,056</b>
Thompson P (01.04.17 - 04.09.17)	2,492	-	-	-	-	<b>2,492</b>
Trueman K (20.11.17 - 31.03.18)	2,835	-	-	-	-	<b>2,835</b>
<b>Total 2017/18</b>	<b>231,735</b>	<b>81,713</b>	<b>1,036</b>	<b>274</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>314,758</b>
Totals 2016/17	195,074	72,143	801	291	460	268,769
Totals 2015/16	195,908	72,167	1,199	-	1,254	270,528

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**Table 2 - Costs associated with Council Approved Conferences**

The Council has an approved list of conferences which specific Councillors are authorised to attend as representatives of the Council, covering the following conferences:

- National Association of Councils
- Local Government Association

The conferences and travel/accommodation arrangements are booked by officers of the Council on behalf of the Councillor(s) attending the conference. The costs are paid directly by the Council and are not based on claims submitted by individual Councillors. The costs paid by the Council for conference fees, travel and accommodation are then recorded against the individual Councillor who attended the event.

Conference Subsistence relates to expenses claimed by Councillors for 'out of pocket expenses' whilst staying away from Hartlepool where meals are not provided for in the overall conference fees. The allowances claimable are based on approved national subsistence rates.

The total amount paid by the Council on costs associated with Council Conferences was £12,307 (£12,226 in 2016/17). An analysis of the payments is detailed below.

Councillor	Conference Travel £	Conference Fees £	Conference Accommodation £	Total 2017/18 £
Akers-Belcher C	234	2,295	1,135	<b>3,664</b>
Akers-Belcher S J	-	1,945	1,015	<b>2,960</b>
Clark A	80	1,105	519	<b>1,704</b>
Cook R W	85	350	120	<b>555</b>
Cranney K H	81	602	212	<b>895</b>
James M A	31	350	120	<b>501</b>
Moore S	-	245	-	<b>245</b>
Sirs K	-	570	273	<b>843</b>
Truman K	-	700	240	<b>940</b>
<b>Totals for 2017/18</b>	<b>511</b>	<b>8,162</b>	<b>3,634</b>	<b>12,307</b>
Totals for 2016/17	1,169	7,876	3,181	12,226
Totals for 2015/16	508	8,140	3,913	12,561

**Table 3 - The Council's appointed representatives on Cleveland Fire Authority**

The following Councillors were the Council's appointed representatives on Cleveland Fire Authority and received a separate allowance for this additional responsibility which was funded from the Fire Authority budget, as detailed below. Further details of these allowances can be obtained from the Fire Authority.

Cleveland Fire Authority		
Councillor	Basic Allowances £	Period of Office
Cook R W	2,194	01.04.17 - 31.03.18
James M	2,194	01.04.17 - 31.03.18
Martin-Wells R	2,194	01.04.17 - 31.03.18
	<b>6,582</b>	

#### The Council's appointed representatives on River Tees Port Authority

Councillor S Thomas was Vice-Chair of River Tees Port Health Authority until 02/06/17. An amount of £212 was paid to Councillor S Thomas for the period 01/04/17 - 02/06/17.