

STANDARDS COMMITTEE

**MEETING HELD AT THE TOWN HALL, SOUTHPORT
ON 3 FEBRUARY 2011**

PRESENT: Councillor Mr. N. Edwards (in the Chair)

Councillors Blackburn, Fenton, Hill, Papworth and
Mr. J. Fraser

12. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Brady and Howe and Parish Councillor Warren.

13. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

14. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 18 November 2010 be confirmed as a correct record.

15. MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES

Further to Minute No. 5(1) of the meeting of the Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) held on 14 December, 2010, the Committee considered the report of the Director of Corporate Services seeking a decision on a recommendation of the IRP that:

- "(1) in order to show leadership during the current harsh economic times, the Cabinet/Council be recommended to reduce the Basic Allowance by 5%, such reduction to take effect from the commencement of the financial year 2011/12. This would restore the discrepancies in the multipliers used to calculate the special Responsibility Allowances;
- (2) a meeting of the Panel be held at 10.00 a.m. on Wednesday, 16 March 2011 at Southport Town Hall;
 - (i) to commence the review of Members' Allowances for 2012/13; and
 - (ii) in order to formulate an objective view of the Members' Allowance Scheme, to receive a

presentation on the responsibility of functions and volume of work of Cabinet Member portfolios and Committees and any changes made due to the recently announced Localism Bill;

- (3) a meeting of the Panel be held at 10.00 a.m. on Wednesday, 7 September 2011 at Bootle Town Hall to:
 - (i) formulate recommendations for submission to the Council on the Members' Allowance Scheme for 2012/13; and
 - (ii) receive a presentation from the Head of Corporate Finance and Information Services on the up to date financial position of the Council; and
- (4) the decision making model referred to above, namely that the Panel meets in March and September, be continued in subsequent years."

The report indicated that the proposals suggested by the IRP would generate a total budget saving in 2011/12 of £50,865 (including on costs).

A copy of the proposed scheme of Members' Allowances was attached as Annex A to the report.

RESOLVED: That Cabinet and Council be recommend to:

- (1) approve the recommendations made by the Independent Remuneration Panel as detailed in paragraph 2.2 of the report;
- (2) implement the changes with effect from 1 April 2011;
- (3) approve the proposed Scheme of Members Allowances as detailed in Annex A; and
- (4) request the Independent Remuneration Panel to formally review the full Scheme during 2011/12.