

Meeting: STANDARDS COMMITTEE
COUNCIL

Date of Meeting: 9th July, 2009

Title of Report: REVIEW OF MEMBERS ALLOWANCES –
INDEPENDENT REMUNERATIONAL PANEL

Report of:

Mrs C J Elwood
Legal Director

Contact Officer:
(Telephone No.) 0151 934 2032

This report contains	Yes	No
CONFIDENTIAL Information/		√
EXEMPT information by virtue of paragraph(s).....of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act, 1972 (If information <u>is</u> marked exempt, the Public Interest Test must be applied and favour the exclusion of the information from the press and public).		√
Is the decision on this report DELEGATED?		

Purpose of Report

To advise Members of the recommendations made by the Independent Remuneration Panel and to make recommendations to Council.

Recommendation(s)

That Members consider the report of the Independent Remuneration Panel and make recommendations to Full Council in relation to the review of the Members Allowance Scheme.

Corporate Objective Monitoring

<u>Corporate Objective</u>		<u>Positive Impact</u>	<u>Neutral Impact</u>	<u>Negative Impact</u>
1.	Creating a Learning Community		√	
2.	Creating Safe Communities		√	
3.	Jobs and Prosperity		√	
4.	Improving Health and Well-Being		√	
5.	Environmental Sustainability		√	
6.	Creating Inclusive Communities		√	
7.	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy	√		
8.	Children and Young People		√	

Financial Implications

<u>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</u>	2006/ 2007 £	2007/ 2008 £	2008/ 2009 £	2009/ 2010 £
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources				
<u>REVENUE IMPLICATIONS</u>				
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure				19,900
Funded by:				
Sefton funded Resources				19,900
Funded from External Resources				
Does the External Funding have an expiry date? Y/N	When?			
How will the service be funded post expiry?				

Departments consulted in the preparation of this Report

Legal
Finance

List of background papers relied upon in the preparation of this Report

Report to the Independent Remuneration Panel

1.0 Background

- 1.1** The three Members of the Council's Independent Remuneration Panel met on the 3rd December 2008 to review the Council's current Members Allowance Scheme. The report to the Panel is attached in full at **Annex 1** to this report. The report of the Panel setting out their findings and recommendations is set out at **Annex 2**.
- 1.2** At their meeting on 22nd January 2009, Members considered the report of the Panel with a view to making recommendations to full Council on 26th February, 2009. After some discussion it was resolved that the report of the Independent Remuneration Panel be deferred to enable the views of the three Political Groups to be sought on the Members Travel & Subsistence Scheme and a report thereon be submitted to the Independent Remuneration Panel for consideration.
- 1.3** The three Political Groups have now considered this matter and it has been agreed not to refer the issue back to the Panel. Accordingly, Members of the Standards Committee are requested to consider the report and to make recommendations to full Council on 9th July 2009. A copy of the minutes of the meeting will accordingly be tabled at Council.
- 1.4** The date recommended by the Panel for implementing the changes to the Special Responsibility Allowances was May 2009 and would cost an additional £19,900 in 2009/10. (Full year costs would be £22,150).
- 1.5** These additional costs cannot be met from the existing Members' Allowance budgets, and therefore resources would need to be requested from Cabinet.
- 1.6** Alternatively, Members may wish to consider amending the proposals to remain within existing resources. As an illustration, for every month the implementation is delayed the additional costs reduce by £1,850.