
REPORT TO:	COUNCIL	AGENDA ITEM: 10
DATE OF MEETING:	02 NOVEMBER 2023	CATEGORY: DELEGATED
REPORT FROM:	CHIEF EXECUTIVE	OPEN PARAGRAPH NO: N/A
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	ARDIP SANDHU Ardip.Sandhu@southderbyshire.gov.uk	DOC:
SUBJECT:	INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL	REF:
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	ALL	

1.0 Recommendations

- 1.1 That Richard Penn be appointed Chairman of the Independent Remuneration Panel to make recommendations to the Council on Members' Allowances.
- 1.2 That the Chief Executive be authorised to appoint two further members from the local community to serve on the Panel.
- 1.3 That the Members of the Panel be paid any agreed fees and expenses incurred by them in carrying out their duties.
- 1.4 That the Terms of Reference for the Panel, as detailed in the report, be approved.

2.0 Purpose of Report

- 2.1 To consider arrangements for an Independent Remuneration Panel to make recommendations to the Council on Members' Allowances.

3.0 Detail

- 3.1 The Council is required to undertake a review of its Members' Allowances scheme by an Independent Remuneration Panel under the four-year rule, as required by The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003.
- 3.2 Independent Remuneration Panels have previously met in 2001, 2003, 2007, 2011, 2015, 2016 and 2020 to make recommendations to the Council on Members' Allowances.
- 3.3 It is proposed the Chairman of the Panel is Richard Penn. Mr Penn has forty years' experience within the public sector. In January 2008 Mr Penn was appointed by the

Minister of Local Government as the Chair of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales. This Panel sets the remuneration for all elected and co-opted Members of local authorities in Wales.

3.4 It is recommended Mr Penn is assisted by two members of the local community to achieve a degree of local accountability, with the two appointments delegated to the Chief Executive.

3.5 It is recommended that the following Terms of Reference be given to the Panel:-

- To make recommendations on the amount of Basic Allowance that should be payable to Members and the expenses it includes;
- To make recommendations on the categories of Members who should receive a Special Responsibility Allowance and the amount of such an allowance;
- To make recommendations on the amount of Co-optees allowances, where applicable;
- To make recommendations on travel and subsistence allowances;
- To make recommendations on the amount of Childcare and Dependent Carers' Allowances;
- To make recommendations on whether the allowances should continue to be adjusted in line with the average pay increases negotiated through the National Joint Committee for Local Government Employees or with reference to any other index or none;
- To make recommendations on the implementation date for the new Scheme of Allowances;
- To make recommendations on the Civic Allowances;
- To make recommendations on additional expenses received by Members;
- To make recommendations on any other matters which the Panel considers necessary.

4.0 Financial Implications

4.1 The expenses of the Independent Remuneration Panel will need to be met by the Council.

4.2 Panel members may claim expenses, including travel and subsistence.

5.0 Corporate Implications

5.1 The Council will be complying with the provisions of The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003.

6.0 Community Implications

6.1 None.

7.0 Background Papers

The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003