

# **CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL**

**11 July 2019**

**REPORT AUTHOR: Head of Finance (Section 151 Officer)**

**SUBJECT: Member Allowances and Expenses 2018-19**

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**REPORT FOR: Information**

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## **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 This report sets out the annual amounts paid and reimbursed to Members and Co-opted Members during the tax year 2018-19, relating to allowances and expenses.
- 1.2 This is in accordance with the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales requirements. The information in this report acts as a public document and will be available on the Powys County Council Internet and in the Publication Scheme. The deadline for publication of the information is the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019.

## **2. Allowances**

- 2.1 Appendix A provides the statutory information that is put into the public domain each year relating to Members and Co-opted Members allowances and expenses including;
  - 2.1.1 Member/Co-opted Member Name
  - 2.1.2 Ward
  - 2.1.3 Basic Salary / Allowance
  - 2.1.4 Senior / Civic Salaries
  - 2.1.5 Care Allowance
  - 2.1.6 Working Expenses
  - 2.1.7 Subsistence
  - 2.1.8 Travel

## **3. Summary of Payments**

- 3.1 2018/19 evidences an overall 0.79 % increase in payments to Members in the financial year ending 31 March 2019.
- 3.2 Basic Salary payments increased by 2.14%, mainly due to the 1.5% increase awarded by the IRPW (from £13,400 to £13,600) effective from 17/05/2018. The remaining difference is attributed to a member suspension and some periods of vacancies during 2017/18 (which reduced the expected salary values in 2017/18 – there were no such adjustments required in 2018/19).
- 3.3 Senior Salary payments decreased by 7.60%, attributed to a reduction in Cabinet member numbers from previous year.
- 3.4 Care Allowance payments decreased by 24.46%%, with fewer members taking up this allowance following the elections in May 2017. It is worth noting that individual

care allowance reimbursements are no longer itemised against individual members, but as a total figure.

- 3.5 Working Expenses payments have again decreased, this year by 91.13% following a 70.61% decrease in 2017/18, with very few Members now claiming.
- 3.6 There has also been a decrease in Subsistence (-89.71%) but a disappointing increase in travel claims (11.93%).
- 3.7 Payments to Co-opted Members increased overall by 11.33%, with a 15.46% increase in Allowances paid. There was however a 7.69% decrease in travel claims.

#### **4. Statutory Officers**

- 4.1 The Solicitor to the Council (Monitoring Officer) commented as follows :  
“The recommendation is supported from a legal point of view.”
- 4.2 The Head of Finance and Section 151 Officer notes the content of the report.

#### **5. Members’ Interests**

All Members will have a personal interest in this matter but do not have a prejudicial interest due an exemption within the Code of Conduct for such matters. Members will be required to sign the form declaring their personal interest before the end of the meeting.

<b>Recommendation:</b>	<b>Reason for Recommendation:</b>
<b>That the report is noted.</b>	<b>Ensuring this information is available in the public domain within the required timescale</b>

<b>Relevant Policy (ies):</b>	Members’ Schedule of Remuneration		
<b>Within Policy:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Within Budget:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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