



**TITLE: INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL**

**TO/ON: FULL COUNCIL 24<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2005**

**BY: MARK WESTON, HEAD OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES**

**LEAD MEMBER : DUNCAN RUDDICK**

**STATUS: FOR PUBLICATION**

**1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 To seek members approval to set up the Independent Remuneration Panel.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 To set up an Independent Remuneration Panel and to delegate to the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, the appointment of members to the Panel following consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Leader of the Opposition.
- 2.2 To pay members of the panel their reasonable expenses incurred as a result of being a member of the panel.

**3. REPORT AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS AND TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

- 3.1 In 2003 the Council's Independent Remuneration Panel consisting of Mr Neville Davies, Unison Full-Time Trade Union Representative, Mrs Gloria Oates, Chief Executive, Oldham Health Authority and High Sheriff of Lancashire, and Mr Vic Hewitt, North West Employers Organisation, produced its report on members allowances.
- 3.2 The recommendations of the Panel were accepted by the Council and the new Scheme of Members Allowances took effect on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2004.

- 3.3 With the introduction of the Council's new governance arrangements on the 1<sup>st</sup> October 2005, it is recommended that the Independent Remuneration Panel be set up again to consider whether any recommendation should be made to the Council to amend the Council's current scheme of members allowances, in light of the Council's new governance arrangements.

#### **4. CORPORATE IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES**

##### **4a. FINANCE (INCORPORATING PROCUREMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT)**

- 4a.1 The cost meeting the reasonable expenses of the member of the Independent Remuneration Panel can be met from existing budgets.

##### **4b. MEMBER DEVELOPMENT**

- 4b.1 Having an up to date Members Allowance Scheme will help to attract members of the public to stand as Councillors.

##### **4c. HUMAN RESOURCES**

- 4c.1 The Independent Remuneration Panel will be serviced by Democratic Services.

#### **5. RISK**

- 5.1 If the Council does not have an up to date Members Allowance Scheme this could act as a deterrent to anyone considering to stand as a Member of the Council.

#### **6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS ARISING FROM THE REPORT**

- 6.1 The Local Authorities (Members Allowances) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2003 as amended need to be adhered to in setting up the Independent Remuneration Panel and the setting of members allowances.

#### **7. EQUALITIES ISSUES ARISING FROM THE REPORT**

- 7.1 None.

#### **8. WARDS AFFECTED**

All.

#### **9. CONSULTATIONS**

None.

Background documents: None.

For further information on the details of this report, please contact:

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