

PART 6

MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME

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Rossendale Borough Council, in exercise of the powers conferred by the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) Regulations 1991, as amended by the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003, hereby makes the following scheme:

1. This scheme shall have effect for the year commencing on 1st April 2006 for the next 12 months.
2. In this scheme "Councillor" means a Member of the Rossendale Borough Council who is a Councillor;

Basic Allowance

3. Subject to paragraph 6 below, for each year a basic allowance of £2,054 shall be paid to each Councillor.

Special Responsibility Allowance

4. (1) For each year a special responsibility allowance shall be paid to those councillors who hold the special responsibilities in relation to the authority that are specified in Schedule 1 below.

(2) Subject to paragraph 6, the amount of each such allowance shall be the amount specified against that special responsibility in that schedule.

(3) No Councillor shall be entitled to receive more than one Special Responsibility Allowance

Renunciation

5. A Councillor may by notice in writing given to the Chief Executive elect to forego any part of any entitlement to an allowance under this scheme.

Part-year Entitlements

6. (1) The provisions of this paragraph shall have effect to regulate the entitlements of a Councillor to basic and special responsibility allowances where, in the course of a year, this scheme is amended or that councillor becomes, or ceases to be, a councillor, or accepts or relinquishes a

special responsibility in respect of which a special responsibility allowance is payable.

(2) If an amendment to this scheme changes the amount to which a councillor is entitled by way of a basic allowance or a special responsibility allowance, then payment shall be made from the date of the change to the scheme.

(3) Where the term of office of a Councillor begins or ends otherwise than at the beginning or end of a year, the entitlement of that Councillor to a basic allowance, and if applicable a special allowance, shall be based on the number of days in office expressed as a proportion of the total number of days in a year.

(4) Where this scheme is amended as mentioned in sub-paragraph (2) and the term of office of a Councillor begins or ends otherwise than at the beginning or end of a year, the entitlement of the councillor to a basic allowance, and if applicable a special responsibility allowance, shall be based on the number of days in office expressed as a proportion of the total number of days in a year which will be calculated in two parts. Firstly, on the scheme before change and secondly on the scheme after the change.

(5) Where a Councillor relinquishes or accepts a special responsibility for which an allowance is payable, the entitlement shall be calculated in accordance with sub section (3) above.

Payments

7. (1) Payments shall be made in respect of basic and special responsibility allowances, subject to sub-paragraph (2), in instalments of one-twelfth of the amount specified in this scheme on the twenty second day of each month or thereabouts (or as otherwise requested in exceptional circumstances);

(2) Where a payment of one-twelfth of the amount specified in this scheme in respect of a basic allowance or a special responsibility allowance would result in the councillor receiving more than the amount to which, by virtue of paragraph 6, the Councillor is entitled, the payment shall be restricted to such amount as will ensure that no more is paid than the amount to which the Councillor is entitled.

Travel and Subsistence

8. Travelling and subsistence expenses will be paid at the appropriate rates as set out in Regulations issued from the Office of the Deputy Prime

Minister when elected Members undertake approved duties either in or out of the Borough

Child Care and Dependant Carers Allowance

9. This Allowance may be claimed in respect of children aged 14 years or under or in respect of other dependents where there is medical or social evidence that care is required.

Payments will not be payable to a member of the Elected Member's household. Payments will be based on receipted expenditure incurred.

The total amount of allowance which an individual Member may claim in any one year will be limited to £750

Co-opted members Expenses

10. This scheme does not provide for an allowance for co-opted members, except so as to provide for a Special Responsibility Allowance in circumstances where a co-opted member is appointed to Chair a Committee included in Schedule 1. However, the Council will pay the reasonable expenses claims of co-opted Members.

Suspension of Payments

11. If any member is suspended or partially suspended from their duties the Standards and Monitoring Committee are empowered under this scheme to stop payment of allowances to that Member

Access to the Local Government Pension Scheme

12. Under this Scheme Members are entitled to access the Local Government Pension Fund based on their basic and any special responsibility allowances they receive

Claims

13. Any claims made under this scheme must be done so within two months of the expenditure being incurred

Calculation and Indexing of Allowances

14. The allowances in this Scheme are calculated using the Basic Wage. The Basic Wage is reviewed in October each year and the level of allowances will be increased in line with the new rate in October each year.

Amendment of the Scheme

15. Amendments to this Scheme can only be made following a report by the Independent Remuneration Panel.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

SCHEDULE 1

SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY ALLOWANCES

The following are specified as special responsibilities in respect of which special responsibility allowances are payable in the amounts stated.

LEADERS/DEPUTY LEADERS	£
Leader of the Majority or Largest Group	8,216
Deputy Leader of the Majority or Largest Group	6,162
Leader of the Minority or Second Largest Group	4,108
CABINET MEMBERS	
Cabinet Member	4,108
COMMITTEE CHAIRS	
Overview & Scrutiny Committee (Policy Development)	4,108
Overview & Scrutiny Committee (Audit and Performance Management)	4,108
Standards	2,054
Development Control	2,054
Licensing	2,054
COMMITTEE VICE-CHAIRS	
Overview & Scrutiny Committee (Policy Development)	2,054
Overview & Scrutiny Committee (Audit and Performance Management)	2,054
Standards	1,027
Development Control	1,027
Licensing	1,027