

ITEM E2

COUNCIL – 12th APRIL 2006

ITEM E2 – SCHEME OF MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES 2005/06 AND 2006/07

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL.

The Independent Remuneration Panel, at its meeting on 3rd April 2006, considered the attached report of the Head of Legal and Democratic Services on a review of the Scheme of Members' Allowances for 2005/06, in the light of the introduction of the Council's new corporate governance arrangements on 1st October 2005. The report also set out recommendations in respect of the provision of an Allowances Scheme for 2006/07.

In considering their recommendations the Panel also noted the request of the Council of 24th August 2005 concerning the operation of a voluntary scheme restricting payment for Council Members who fail to attend meetings, or who are not available to attend meetings and that a further report would be provided on this matter.

Council are Recommended:

1. To amend Schedule 1 of the Scheme of Members' Allowances 2005/06 to reflect special responsibilities of elected Members under the new Committee structure, details of which are set out at Appendix 2 of the report;
2. To amend Paragraph 10 of the Scheme of Members' Allowances 2005/06 to provide that co-opted Members be entitled to a Special Responsibility Allowance in circumstances where they are appointed to Chair a committee included in Schedule 1;
3. To amend Schedule 1 of the Scheme of Members' Allowances 2005/06 to include an allowance at 1 x basic allowance (£ 1, 939) for the Vice-Chairs of the two Overview and Scrutiny Committees and half the basic allowance for Vice-Chairs of the other Committees outlined in Schedule 1 (£ 969.50) as outlined in Appendix 2;
4. That the amendments to the Scheme of Members' Allowances 2005/06 take effect from 1st October 2005;
5. That a Scheme of Members' Allowances for 2006/07 be adopted, which is unchanged from the 2005/06 Scheme as amended.