

Decision Maker: **COUNCIL**

Date: **Monday 24 February 2020**

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Non-Executive Non-Key

Title: **MEMBERS ALLOWANCES SCHEME 2020/21**

Contact Officer: Graham Walton, Democratic Services Manager
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Chief Officer: Mark Bowen, Director of Corporate Services

Ward: All

1. Reason for report

- 1.1 At its meeting on 11th February 2020, the General Purposes and Licensing Committee considered the attached report on the proposed Members Allowances Scheme for the 2020/21 financial year. The Committee recommended that all allowances, including the Mayoral and Deputy Mayoral allowances (which are not part of the Members Allowances Scheme), be raised by 2.5%, the same percentage increase as proposed for Council staff. The Committee also suggested that the allowance for the Leader of the Council should be increased to £40,000 to reflect the extent of the responsibility, the pressures and the competencies required for the role, and the level of pay for the role across London. It was also recommended that the allowances for minority group leaders be increased by similar percentages.

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That Council be recommended to approve the Members Allowances Scheme 2020/21 and the Mayoral and Deputy Mayoral Allowances, on the basis of a 2.5% increase in all allowances, in line with the recommended increase for Council staff, with the allowance for the Leader of the Council increased to £40,000 and the allowances for the Leaders of the minority groups increased by similar percentages to £9,333 and £4,667.

Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children

1. Summary of Impact: Not Applicable
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Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing Policy :
 2. BBB Priority: Excellent Council:
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Financial

1. Cost of proposal: Estimated Cost: £1,090k
 2. Ongoing costs: Recurring Cost: £1,090k
 3. Budget head/performance centre: Democratic Representation - Members Allowances
Mayor and Civic Hospitality - Mayoral Allowance
 4. Total current budget for this head: £1,066k for Members Allowances, £24k for Mayoral Allowances
 5. Source of funding: Revenue Budget
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Personnel

1. Number of staff (current and additional): Not Applicable
 2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: Not Applicable
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Legal

1. Legal Requirement: Statutory Requirement: The Local Authorities (members allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 (SI 2003/1021)
 2. Call-in: Not Applicable: Full Council decisions are not subject to call-in
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Procurement

1. Summary of Procurement Implications: Not Applicable
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Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected): All 60 members of the Council
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Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? Not Applicable
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments: Not Applicable

Non-Applicable Sections:	See attached report
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	See attached report