

Decision Maker: COUNCIL

Date: Monday 27 February 2023

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

Title: MEMBERS ALLOWANCES SCHEME 2023/24

Contact Officer: Graham Walton, Democratic Services Manager
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Chief Officer: Tasnim Shawkat, Director of Corporate Services and Governance

Ward: All

1. Reason for decision/report and options

- 1.1 At its meeting on 16th February 2023, the General Purposes and Licensing Committee considered the attached report reviewing the Members Allowances Scheme. The regulations governing Members Allowances require that, before the beginning of each financial year, the full Council shall make a scheme of allowances for that year, and this report details the proposed allowances for 2023/24. The Committee recommends an increase of 7.75% (similar to that proposed for Council staff) rounded up as appropriate, along with a number of detailed changes proposed by the majority group. These changes include increased allowances for the Deputy Leader, the Leader of the largest minority group, the Chairmen of Pensions Committee and Audit and Risk Management Committee and various Vice-Chairman roles and removal of the allowance for the Leader of the second largest minority group. The recommended proposals are set out in an amended version of Schedule 1 to the proposed Scheme (with the draft proposals considered by the Committee set out on the next page).
- 1.2 The Mayoral and Deputy Mayoral Allowances are not part of the Members Allowances Scheme, but are usually considered in conjunction with it – it is recommended that they are also increased by 7.75%.
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2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Council be recommended to approve the Members Allowances Scheme 2023/24 and the Mayoral and Deputy Mayoral Allowances for 2023/24 based on the proposals from the Conservative group for most allowances to be increased by 7.75% (rounded up as necessary) with increased allowances for the Deputy Leader, the Leader of the largest minority group, the Chairmen of Pensions Committee and Audit and Risk Management Committee and various Vice-Chairman roles and removal of the allowance for the Leader of the second largest minority group.

Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children

1. Summary of Impact: Not Applicable

Transformation Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing Policy
2. Making Bromley Even Better Priority:
(5) To manage our resources well, providing value for money, and efficient and effective services for Bromley's residents.

Financial

1. Cost of proposal: Estimated Cost: £1,236k (Members Allowances)
£28k (Mayoral Allowances)
2. Ongoing costs: Recurring Cost
3. Budget head/performance centre: Democratic Representation: Members Allowances
Mayoral & Civic Hospitality – Mayoral Allowances
4. Total current budget for this head: £1,116k for Members Allowances; £26k for Mayoral Allowances
5. Source of funding: Revenue Budget

Personnel

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

Legal

1. Legal Requirement: Statutory Requirement Local Authority (Members Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 (SI 2003/1021)
2. Call-in: Not Applicable: Full Council decisions are not subject to call-in

Procurement

1. Summary of Procurement Implications: Not Applicable

Property

1. Summary of Property Implications: Not Applicable

Carbon Reduction and Social Value

1. Summary of Carbon Reduction/Sustainability Implications: Not Applicable

Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users or customers (current and projected): Not Applicable

Ward Councillor Views

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

Non-Applicable Headings:	Vulnerable Adults and Children/Policy/Legal/Finance/Personnel/Property/Procurement/Carbon Reduction/Customer Impact/Ward Councillors
Background Documents:	See attached report