

London Borough of Bromley

Members Allowances Scheme

From 1st April 2011, in exercise of the powers conferred by the Local Authorities (Members Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 (2003 No. 1021) [as amended by SI 2003 No. 1692], the London Borough of Bromley will operate the following Members Allowances Scheme.

1. This Scheme is known as the London Borough of Bromley Members Allowances Scheme and will operate from 1st April 2011 until amended.
2. In this Scheme:
 - “Councillor” means a member of the London Borough of Bromley who is an elected Member;
 - “Member” for the purposes of this Scheme shall mean elected Councillors;
 - “year” means the 12 months ending 31st March.
3. The Council in agreeing this Scheme has considered the recommendations of the Independent Panel commissioned by the Association of London Government on the remuneration of Councillors in London entitled “The Remuneration of Councillors in London 2010 Review” report published February 2010.

Basic Allowance

4. A basic annual allowance of £10,872.02 shall be paid to each Councillor.

Special Responsibility Allowances

5. (1) An annual Special Responsibility Allowance will be paid to those Members who hold special responsibilities. The special responsibilities are specified in Schedule 1 (attached).
- (2) During periods after an election when any position of special responsibility is unfilled, the relevant Special Responsibility Allowance shall be payable to the new holder of the position from the day after the previous holder ceases to be responsible.
- (3) The amount of each Special Responsibility Allowance is specified against that special responsibility in Schedule 1. The conditions set out in paragraphs 5(2), 5(4) and 14 apply.
- (4) Where a Member holds more than one position of special responsibility then only one Special Responsibility Allowance will be paid. Subject to sub-paragraph (5), Members may be paid quasi-judicial allowances in addition to a Special Responsibility Allowance.
- (5) All Members of the Plans Sub-Committees, Adoption Panel and Licensing Sub-Committee will be paid a quasi-judicial allowance at an annual rate £669.99 per annum. Where a Member has membership of only one Plans Sub-Committee, the allowance will be set at half that amount, £335.

Childcare and Dependent Carers Allowance

6. The Council has agreed that no allowance will be paid for childcare or dependent carers.

Co-optees Allowance

7. The Council has agreed that no allowance will be paid for co-optees.

Pensions

8. All Councillors under the age of 75 are entitled to apply for membership of the Local Government Pension Scheme. Both Basic Allowance and Special Responsibility Allowance, including quasi-judicial allowances, will be treated as amounts in respect of which pensions are payable.

Travel and Subsistence Allowance

9. The Basic Allowance covers all intra-Borough travel costs and subsistence. All other necessarily incurred travel and subsistence expenses for approved duties as set out in the Regulations (Regulation 8(a) to (h)) will be reimbursed under the same rules and entitlement as applies to staff. Travel by bicycle will also be paid at the same rates as applies to staff. Claims for reimbursement are to be made within one month of when the costs were incurred.

Ability to Decline An Allowance

10. A member may, by writing to the Director of Legal and Democratic Services, decide not to accept any part of his entitlement to an allowance under this Scheme.

Withholding of Allowances

11. The Standards Committee may withhold all or part of any allowances due to a Member who has been suspended or partially suspended from his/her responsibilities or duties as a Member of the Authority. Any travelling or subsistence allowance payable to him/her for responsibilities or duties from which they are suspended or partially suspended may also be withheld.
12. Where the payment of an allowance has already been made in respect of a period in which a Member has been suspended or partially suspended, the Council may require the allowance that relates to that period of suspension to be repaid.

Members of more than one Authority

13. Where a Member is also a member of another authority, that Member may not receive allowances from more than one authority for the same duties.

Part-year Entitlements

14. If during the course of a year:
 - (a) there are any changes in the Basic and/or Special Responsibility Allowances,
 - (b) a new Member is elected,
 - (c) any Member ceases to be a Member,
 - (d) any Member accepts or relinquishes a post in respect of which a Special Responsibility Allowance is payable, or

- (e) the Standards Committee resolves to withhold any allowances during the suspension of a Member,

the allowance payable in respect of the relevant periods shall be adjusted pro rata to the number of days.

Payments

- 15. Payments shall so far as is reasonably practicable normally be made for Basic and Special Responsibility Allowances in instalments of one-twelfth of the amount specified in this Scheme.

Inflation Increase

- 16. The allowances set out in this Scheme may be increased annually by the same percentage increase as the market movement change for officers under the PE Inbucon scheme, such increase to take effect from the start of the Municipal Year. This inflation index will apply until further notice unless the Scheme is revised after consideration of any new Independent Panel report. Where the only change to the Scheme in any year is that effected by such an annual adjustment in accordance with this index, the new uprated allowance rates will apply without further consideration by an Independent Panel.

Notification Fee to Information Commissioner

- 17. The Council shall reimburse, or pay on their behalf, the annual fee payable by all Councillors to the Information Commissioner.

Schedule 1

Special Responsibility Allowances for the year ending 31st March 2012

| Posts of Special Responsibility Allowance | |
|---|-----------|
| | £ |
| Leader of the Council | 30,600.00 |
| Portfolio Holders (x6) | 20,400.00 |
| Executive Assistants (x5) | 3,573.22 |
| Executive Members without Portfolio (x2) | 3,573.22 |
| Chairman of Portfolio PDS Committees (x6) | 7,140.00 |
| Chairman of Development Control Committee | 9,179.61 |
| Vice-Chairman of Development Control Committee | 1,971.47 |
| Chairman of Plans Sub-Committees (x4) | 2,772.35 |
| Chairman of General Purposes and Licensing Committee | 9,179.61 |
| Vice-Chairman of General Purposes and Licensing Committee | 1,971.47 |
| Chairman of Audit Sub-Committee | 1,971.47 |
| Chairman of Investment Sub-Committee | 1,971.47 |
| Leader of Main Opposition Party | 7,577.78 |
| Leader of Minority Opposition Party | 3,673.53 |
| Quasi-Judicial Allowances:- | |
| Members of two Plans Sub-Committees | 669.99 |
| Members of one Plans Sub-Committee | 335.00 |
| Members of Adoption Panel | 669.99 |
| Members of Fostering Panel | 669.99 |
| Members of Licensing Sub-Committee | 669.99 |

Note: the Basic Allowance is currently set at £10,872.02