

**REPORT TO:** Council

**DATE:** 21 October 2009

**REPORTING OFFICER:** Strategic Director Corporate & Policy

**SUBJECT:** Independent Remuneration Panel

**WARD(S):** Borough-wide

## **1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to recommend Council that it sets up an Independent Remuneration Panel to consider the Scheme of Members' Allowances.

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 That the Chief Executive be authorised to take all necessary steps to establish an Independent Remuneration Panel to review the Council Scheme of Member Allowances.**

## **3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 3.1 The Council's Scheme of Members allowances will expire on the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010. The Council is therefore required to put a new Scheme in place before that date. Before making a Scheme, the relevant Regulations require that the Council must appoint, and take advice from, an Independent Remuneration Panel. It is therefore suggested that such a panel be established to advise the Council.
- 3.2 The Regulations require that Independent Remuneration Panels consist of 3 or more members none of whom are either members of the authority or who are disqualified from being members of the authority.
- 3.3 If an Independent Remuneration Panel is appointed by the Council in October, it is anticipated that they would report to Full Council before the end of the financial year with their recommendations.

## **4.0 POLICY, FINANCIAL AND OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 None at this stage.

## **5.0 RISK ANALYSIS**

- 5.1 It is necessary to ensure that a new Scheme is in place in time for the expiry of the current scheme.

## **6.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

- 6.1 The Current Scheme addresses issues such as Child Care and Dependent Carer's allowances and it is important that similar allowances are included in the new scheme.

## **7.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

| <b>Document</b>   | <b>Place of Inspection</b> | <b>Contact Officer</b> |
|---|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Chapter 6 Council's Constitution                                      | Municipal Building         | Mark Reaney            |
| The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances)(England) Regulations 2003 | Municipal Building         | Mark Reaney            |