

STOCKPORT METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL ON COUNCILLORS' ALLOWANCES

Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council has received recommendations from an Independent Remuneration Panel under the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) Regulations 2003.

Copies of the report detailing the Panel's recommendations are available from Democratic Services at the Town Hall, Stockport during the hours of 8.30 am to 5.00 pm Monday to Thursday, and 8.30 am to 4.30 pm on Friday. The main features of the Panel's recommendations are as follows:-

(1) Basic Allowance and Special Responsibility Allowances

	Index	£
Basic Allowance		9,520.80
Special Responsibility Allowances:-		
Executive Leader	3x basic	28,562.40
Deputy Executive Leader	55%	15,709.14
Executive Members	50%	14,281.20
Leader of main Opposition Group	30%	8,568.72
Leaders of two smaller Opposition Groups	£1000 + £300 per group member	
Chair of Planning and Highways Regulation Committee	28%	7,997.47
Chair of Licensing, Environment and Safety Committee	28%	7,997.47
Chair of a Licensing, Environment and Safety Sub-Committee	12%	3,427.49
Chairs of a Scrutiny Committee	20%	5,712.48
Chair of a Scrutiny Review Panel	4%	1,142.50
Chair of an Area Committee	20%	5,712.48
Chair of Audit Committee	20%	5,712.48
Co-optee's Allowance	1%	285.62
Standard Committee Co-optee's Allowance:-		
Independent Chair of Standards Committee	4%	1,142.50
Independent member of the Standards Committee	2%	571.25
Members of the Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority:-		
Members' Allowance (Paid to all those not holding another remunerated GMWDA post)		2,100.00
<i>Responsibility Allowances (incorporating GMWDA Members' Allowance):</i>		
Chair of the GMWDA		£12,000.00
3 Vice-Chairs of the GMWDA		£5,400.00
3 Deputy Chair of the GMWDA		£2,600.00
Members of the Transport for Greater Manchester Committee:-		
TfGMC Members' Allowance (Paid to all those not holding another remunerated TfGMC post)		3,825.00
<i>Responsibility Allowances (incorporating TfGMC Members' Allowance):</i>		
Chair of the TfGMC		28,250.00
3 Vice-Chairs of TfGMC/ Chairs of Sub-Committees		14,125.00
3 Deputy Chairs of the Sub-Committees		5,050.00

(2) Dependent Carers' Allowance

That the maximum that may be claimed within any one week period be increased to £42.00.

(3) Travel and Subsistence Allowances

That the existing provision within the scheme as relates to subsistence expenses be maintained, save that an additional clause be inserted such that "in exceptional circumstances claims over and above these amounts may be approved at the discretion of the Chief Executive." The Panel has further recommended that mileage claims made in connection with an approved duty outside the borough be reimbursed at the current HMRC rates.

(4) Pensions

That the existing provision with the Scheme as relates to pensions be maintained.

(5) ICT Allowance

That a separate flat rate ICT Allowance of £300.00 be payable to all members to cover the cost of their own ICT provision and broadband in lieu of council provided equipment, save that a member may elect to forgo this allowance in favour of the Council's Standard ICT package provided on a four year loan at the commencement of their term of office

(6) Civic Allowances

That in the interests of transparency the Civic Allowances be reported within the Members' Allowances Scheme

(7) Annual Adjustment of Allowance Levels

That for the four years commencing with the implementation of the Panel's recommendations, the amount of an allowance payable under this scheme shall be increased by reference to the annual percentage salary increase for local government staff (at spinal column 49) to be implemented from the start of the municipal year for which year it is applicable.

(8) Implementation of the Recommendations of the Panel

That the recommendations contained within this report be implemented from the date of the next meeting of the Annual Meeting of the Council save for those allowances paid in connection with duties related to the operation of the Standards Committee which should be implemented as soon as possible, and any allowances payable backdated to 1 July 2012.

**ADOPTION OF RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION
PANEL ON COUNCILLORS' ALLOWANCES**

Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council, on 27 September 2012, adopted revisions to its Scheme of Councillors' Allowances which will be effective from 21 May 2012.

The changes to the Scheme of Allowances have been adopted following receipt of a report from the Independent Remuneration Panel and the recommendations of the report have been adopted as detailed at (1)-(8) above.

Copies of the report detailing changes to the Scheme, together with the amended Scheme and copies of the record kept in accordance with Regulation 15(1) and (2) are available from Democratic Services at the Town Hall, Stockport during the hours of 8.30 am to 5.00 pm Monday to Thursday, and 8.30 am to 4.30 pm on Friday.

Barry Khan
Service Director (Legal & Democratic Services)

Dated 10 October 2012