

## Governance, Audit & Finance Scrutiny Panel - 11 September 2018

### Councillor Allowances Interviews

Question	Councillor Wilson	Councillor Francis	Councillor Weeks	Councillor Buckley	Councillor Hughes
Do you think that the Basic Allowance is reasonable?	Yes – need to accept that allowance will not match packages given to Non-Executive Directors of Companies of equal size and budget of the Council	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes. It is not a salary; it is an allowance for work undertaken in the execution of Councillor duties. Therefore, it means that the ‘hourly’ rate varies from Councillor to Councillor, depending on how much work they undertake.
Do you think that the current SRAs are generally set at an appropriate level or are there any that you feel are either too high or low based upon the workload and responsibility of the role?	<p>Leader’s SRA - need to accept that allowance will not match packages given to Executive Directors of Companies of equal size and budget of the Council.</p> <p>SRA for DMC Chairman probably set too low – should be at least level, if not higher than SRA for other Committee Chairmen.</p> <p>SRA for Scrutiny</p>	<p>Leader and Deputy Leaders’ SRA didn’t currently reflect the responsibilities, skills and workload for this post so should be increased.</p> <p>Other SRAs are reasonable</p>	<p>Maybe it should be reflected by the number of meetings a Chairman attends, as some committees meet more than others!</p> <p>I believe that Cabinet members earn their allowances for the sheer volume of work and hours put in and responsibility.</p> <p>Licensing has now been set up as panels that should be revisited.</p>	<p>Scrutiny Board SRAs too high and should be closer to the allowance previously paid to Scrutiny Leads.</p> <p>DMC Chairman’s SRA too low. The SRA was reduced based on time and number of meetings and should have also included the responsibilities of the post.</p>	I think that the majority of SRAs set at the correct level. Where there is an unbalance, it would be for Committee Chairs. I feel that the ‘primacy’ of Chairs is DMC, Select Committees and Licensing. SRA should be structured to reflect this.

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	Board Chairman should not be higher than DMC Chairman SRA.		Looking at the number of meetings 2017/18 in my opinion it doesn't warrant the allowance being paid.		
Do you feel that there are any SRAs within the existing scheme that should not be paid, or any roles undertaken by councillors that should attract an SRA but currently do not?	None	No	Licensing & Joint Human Resources	No	<p>I believe that the Licensing Chair should be paid per meeting at a rate of £100 per meeting.</p> <p>I believe that each member of the DMC should be paid an SRA of between £600 - £900 per annum.</p>
Have you experienced a financial impact in terms of allowances following a change in your role in the Council?	No	No	No	No	No
Do you think that	Need to review Basic		No - Should continue to		It should be tied to

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Councillors' allowances should be subject to an annual inflationary adjustment? If so, how do you think that this adjustment should be indexed?	Allowances each year		be reviewed by the outside panel.		increases awarded to paid staff.
Do you think that the current mileage, childcare, dependent relative care and evening meal rates are realistic?	The Modernisation Allowance went beyond an incidental cost and should therefore be separated from the Basic Allowance.		I believe the current mileage rate is on par with other organisations. I am not in a position to comment the rest.	No	Yes
Regarding the current scheme of councillors' allowances, do you feel that there are any other aspects not covered in the previous questions that should be amended?	No	Laptops should be provided to all Councillors to make them more efficient.	No	No	I feel that the IT allowance should be separated out and applied in a manner that will allow HBC move to a paperless environment and a Havant Private ModGov account. This will require the purchase of a tablet to access HBC applications and information. The tablet can stay with the

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					Councillor when they leave office.
Has the level of Special Responsibility Allowances made it difficult to recruit Councillors to these roles?	No		Unaware of SRAs until appointed to an SRA post.	Unaware of SRAs until appointed to an SRA post.	Unaware of SRAs until appointed to an SRA post.
Are you likely to increase the number of Cabinet Leads this year?	In view of the predicted workload for the Cabinet this year, considering appointing an additional cabinet Lead and the possibility of creating Deputy Cabinet leads to undertake project work.				