

Briefing Note

This briefing note is prepared in response to the motion from Cllr Philip Whitehead:

The Members' Allowances Scheme be amended to include provision that in an election year, the SRAs for all SRA holders continue until the new SRA holders are appointed by the Full Council. This to apply from 7 May 2021 onwards, providing the member was re-elected.

Response:

The Members Allowance Scheme is a matter for Council to determine, however it must do so having sought the recommendation of an Independent Remuneration Panel.

The Panel have considered the matter of SRAs in an election year and recommend that SRAs continue only for the Leader, Deputy Leader and Cabinet members in this instance. The matter is addressed in paragraphs 90-91 and Recommendation 18 of the Panel's report on this agenda, however the Council is not obliged to follow the recommendation and it is a matter for the Council to determine whether it wishes to agree the motion proposed.

Update (Financial Implications):

Based on the current allowance scheme and the continuation of the staff pay award as the index by which allowances are increased, it is estimated this motion would incur costs of approximately an additional £8,446 in a full year, and £6,629 actual cost in 21/22 due to some SRA holders not being re-elected.