

## **Overview and Scrutiny (OS) Member Remuneration 2020/21**

### **Purpose**

1. To propose the application of the OS Remuneration Fund for 2020/21.

### **Background**

2. The Wiltshire Council Member Remuneration Scheme was adopted by Full Council in 2017, following a review by the Independent Remuneration Panel. The Scheme retained a £15,000 OS fund and defined its purpose as, *“To remunerate councillors to recognise significant additional responsibilities undertaken as part of overview and scrutiny activities. A scheme on how to allocate the fund will be prepared and approved annually by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee.”*
3. The method of allocating the OS fund was revised by Committee in September 2018. The revised scheme retained the focus on remunerating leading OS positions (certain select committee vice-chairmen, chairs of task groups, rapid scrutiny exercises and representatives on project boards). However, Committee agreed that the number of meetings involved in qualifying activities should be a factor in the level of remuneration received to ensure that the varying time demands of different roles is recognised.
4. It should be noted that only full, formal meetings of each activity are counted when calculating the allocations. These meetings can represent only a portion of the actual activity involved in fulfilling the qualifying roles. Other activities include less formal discussions with service officers, fellow scrutiny members and Executive members, regular liaison with scrutiny officers, ad hoc evidence gathering and attendance at committees and Cabinet to report on progress and present findings.
5. Following consultation with the chair and vice-chair of Management Committee under the previous council, it is proposed that the Scheme be applied as set out in Appendix 1 for the 2020/21 municipal year (15 June 2020 to 9 May 2021).

## Application

6. The following activities are considered eligible for remuneration within the scheme for the 2020/21 municipal year:

- Chairing active task groups, including standing task groups;
- Leading rapid scrutiny exercises;
- Vice-chairing select committees that do not attract an SRA;
- Representation on active project boards;
- Chairing active scrutiny panels.

The current standing task groups are as follows: Financial Planning Task Group.

7. Applying the scheme in this way yields a total of 9 qualifying activities. The fund totals £15,000 and, as in previous years, a fixed payment (1/10<sup>th</sup> or £1,500) has been allocated to 4 key positions, which are:

- Vice-chair of Children's Select Committee
- Vice-chair of Environment Select Committee
- Vice-chair of Health Select Committee
- Chairman of Financial Planning Task Group

8. Shares for other activities are allocated by the number of meetings led, capped at a total share of £1,500.

9. Due to exceptional circumstances during 2020/21, the Chair and Vice-chair of OS under the previous council agreed that the share paid per meeting should be the same as the previous year (2019/20) plus 1% inflation. This is to avoid very higher than normal amounts being paid as a result of the lower than average OS activity during 2020/21. This means that £11,596 of the £15k fund will be allocated for the year 15 June 2020 to 9 May 2021.

10. No more than 2 x fund shares are awarded to any one councillor. In cases where 3 or more would be allocated, the lowest share is not paid.

11. To count as a qualifying meeting, task group meetings must have been full meetings with all members invited to attend, rather than briefings, sub-groups or attendance at Cabinet etc.

12. Appendix 1 shows the detail of this allocation.

## Proposal

13. To approve the allocation of the OS Remuneration fund for 2020/21 as detailed in Appendix 1.

## **Appendices**

Appendix 1

Schedule of OS Remuneration Fund allocations 2020/21

### Appendix 1 – O&S Activity 2020/21 municipal year

	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Qualifying meetings</b>	<b>No. of meetings attended</b>	<b>Parent Committee</b>	<b>Chair / Lead</b>	<b>£ Share 2020/21</b>
1.	Global Warming and Climate Change Task Group	29 June 7 September 7 October 19 October 11 December 28 January 24 February	7	Environment Select Committee	Cllr Graham Wright	£1,500*  *Capped from £1,652
2.	Financial Planning Task Group	23 July 8 August 27 October 11 November 26 November 4 January 20 January 12 March	8	OS Management Committee	Cllr Pip Ridout	£1,500  *Fixed amount for key position
3.	Wiltshire Covid-19 Response Task Group	7 July 12 August 1 September 15 September 14 October 28 October 17 November 26 November 15 December	9	OS Management Committee	Cllr Graham Wright	£1,500*  *Capped from £2,124
4.	Wiltshire Online Board – OS representative	4 August 21 October	2	Environment Select Committee	Cllr George Jeans	£472
5.	SWLEP Joint Scrutiny Panel	20 July 12 October	5	OS Management Committee	Cllr Alan Hill	£1,180

		14 December 15 February 12 April				
6.	Adoptions West Joint Scrutiny Panel	28 July 04 November 20 January 17 March	4	Children's Select Committee	Cllr Jon Hubbard	£944
	<b>TOTAL MEETINGS:</b>		<b>35</b>			<b>£7,096</b>

	Select Committee (where the vice-chair position does not attract an SRA)	Role	Councillor	*£ share 2020/21
7.	Children's Select Committee	Vice Chair	Cllr Jacqui Lay	£1,500
8.	Environment Select Committee	Vice Chair	Cllr Bob Jones MBE	£1,500
9.	Health Select Committee	Vice Chair	Cllr Gordon King	£1,500

<b>Scheme total</b>	<b>£11,596</b>
---------------------	----------------