

Wiltshire Council

Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

19 May 2021

Overview and Scrutiny (OS) Member Remuneration 2021/22

Purpose

1. To propose the application of the OS Remuneration Fund for 2021/22.

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 (some 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 distinct roles is recognised.
4. The level of the OS Remuneration Fund remained unchanged after the Independent Remuneration Panel review in 2021.
5. 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.
6. Following consultation with the OS chairman and vice-chairman, it is proposed that the Scheme be applied as set out in Appendix 1 for the 2021/22 municipal year (18 May 2021 to 17 May 2022).

Application

7. The following activities are considered eligible for remuneration within the scheme for the 2021/22 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 and Children's Select Committee Standing Task Group.

8. Applying the scheme in this way yields a total of 16 qualifying activities. The fund totals £15,000 and, as in previous years, a fixed payment (1/10th 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

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

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 the 2021/22 allocation.

Proposal

13. To approve the allocation of the OS Remuneration fund for 2021/22 as detailed in Appendix 1.

Cllr Graham Wright, Chairman OS Management Committee

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Appendices

Appendix 1 Schedule of OS Remuneration Fund allocations 2020/21

Appendix 1 – O&S (Overview and Scrutiny) Activity 2021/22 municipal year

	Activity	Qualifying meetings	No. of meetings attended	Parent Committee	Chair / Lead	£ Share 2021/22
1.	Climate Emergency Task Group	4 July 23 July 29 July 4 August 5 August 24 September 8 October 22 October 10 December 15 December 18 March 6 May 13 May	13	Environment Select Committee	Cllr Graham Wright	£1,500* *Capped from £2,561
2.	Financial Planning Task Group	25 June 7 July 10 September 20 September 8 October 26 November 10 December 7 January 18 January 21 January 22 February	11	OS Management Committee	Cllr Pip Ridout	£1,500 *Fixed amount for key position
3.	SWLEP Joint Scrutiny Panel	7 June 9 August 18 October 13 December 14 February 11 April	6	OS Management Committee	Cllr Richard Britton	£1,182

4.	Adoption West Joint Scrutiny Panel	14 July 20 October 2 February 6 April	4	Children's Select Committee	Cllr Jon Hubbard	£788
5.	Evolve Task Group	14 January 18 April	2	OS Management Committee	Cllr Jon Hubbard	£394* Maximum of 2 x shares per member reached
6.	Area Boards Task Group	18 February 1 March 7 March 8 March 16 March	5	OS Management Committee	Cllr Graham Wright	£985
7.	Children's Select Committee Standing Task Group	22 September 4 January	2	Children's Select Committee	Cllr Jon Hubbard	£394* Maximum of 2 x shares per member reached
8.	Fostering Excellence Task Group	18 January 3 February 4 March 28 April	4	Children's Select Committee	Cllr Chuck Berry	£788
9.	Disadvantaged Learners Task Group	30 November 20 January 10 February 10 March 21 March 7 April 28 April	7	Children's Select Committee	Cllr Jo Trigg	£1,379
10.	Asset Transfer Policy – Rapid Scrutiny	11 April 21 April 4 May	3	OS Management Committee	Cllr Ruth Hopkinson	£591

11.	Provision of Accommodation for Young People at Transition Time - Gap Analysis Rapid Scrutiny	27 October	1	Children's Select Committee	Cllr Carole King	£197
12.	Housing Related Support Rapid Scrutiny	13 October 2 February	2	Health Select Committee	Cllr Ruth Hopkinson	£394
13.	Lunch and Friendship Clubs Rapid Scrutiny	2 March	1	Health Select Committee	Cllr Johnny Kidney	£197
14.	Constitutional Focus Group – OS representative	27 October 29 March 12 April	3	OS Management Committee	Cllr Jon Hubbard	£591
15.	Gigaclear Contract Board - OS representative	15 July 20 October	2	OS Management Committee	Cllr George Jeans	£394
16.	Councillor Climate Working Group - OS representative	8 July 12 November 1 March 11 May	4	OS Management Committee	Cllr Graham Wright	£788* Maximum of 2 x shares per member reached
TOTAL MEETINGS:			70			£10,486

	Select Committee (where the vice-chair position does not attract an SRA (Special Responsibility Allowances))	Role	Councillor	*£ share 2020/21
17.	Children's Select Committee	Vice Chair	Cllr Jacqui Lay	£1,500
18.	Environment Select Committee	Vice Chair	Cllr Bob Jones MBE	£1,500
19.	Health Select Committee	Vice Chair	Cllr Gordon King	£1,500
TOTAL				£4,500

Calculation Guidance

Total fund	£15,000
4 x key position share total	£6,000 (4 x £1,500)
1 x capped position	£1,500
Remainder for other qualifying positions	£7,500
Total qualifying position meetings	70
Total meetings with maximum 2 shares per Cllr considered	38
Share per meeting	£197
	38 x £197 = £7,486

Comparison of OS Remuneration Fund allocations 2018/19 to 2021/22

	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
No. of individual recipients	16	17	8	13
No. of meetings	69	51	35	70
Remuneration per meeting	£136	£234	£236	£197
Total fund allocation	£14,999	£14,988	£11,596	£14,986