

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL –
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MEMBERS’ ALLOWANCES FOR 2013-14**

Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillors B Hartnett, Leader and P Mould, Portfolio Holder for Corporate Management
Portfolio Holder Consulted	Yes
Relevant Head of Service	Claire Felton
Ward(s) Affected	All
Ward Councillor(s) Consulted	N/A
Non-Key Decision	

1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS

Each Council is required by law to have an Independent Remuneration Panel which recommends the level of allowances for Councillors. The Panel for Redditch also makes recommendations to the other District Councils in Worcestershire. The Panel’s report is enclosed for consideration by the Executive Committee and ultimately by the Council.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is asked to consider the report and recommendations and RECOMMEND to Council

whether or not to accept the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel for 2013-14.

3. KEY ISSUES

Financial Implications

3.1 If the Council was to accept the recommendations in full, the budget for Members’ allowances for 2013-14 would be approx. £197,400. This would be an increase of £58,300 on the total in the current year.

Legal Implications

3.2 The Council is required to “have regard” to the recommendations of the Panel. However, it is not obliged to agree to them. It can choose to implement them in full or in part, or not to accept them.

Service/Operational Implications

3.3 There are no direct service or operational implications arising from this report. Once the Council has agreed the allowances for 2013-14 Officers will update and publish the Members’ Allowances Scheme as appropriate.

Customer/Equalities and Diversity Implications

3.4 None arising from this report.

4. RISK MANAGEMENT

Payments to Councillors can be a high profile issue. The main risks are reputational. However, the Council is transparent about the decisions made on allowances. The Allowances scheme and sums paid to Councillors each year are published on the Council's website.

5. APPENDICES

None.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

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