

# CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

22 July 2022

**REPORT AUTHOR:** Head of Finance (Section 151 Officer)

**SUBJECT:** Member Allowances and Expenses 2021-2022

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**REPORT FOR:** Information

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## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report sets out the annual amounts paid and reimbursed to Members and Co-opted Members during the tax year 2021-22, relating to allowances and expenses.
- 1.2 This is in accordance with the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales (IRPW) requirements. The information in this report acts as a public document and will be available on the Powys County Council Internet and in the Publication Scheme. The deadline for publication of the information is the 30 September 2022.

## 2. Allowances

- 2.1 Appendix A provides the statutory information that is put into the public domain each year relating to Members and Co-opted Members allowances and expenses including;
- 2.1.1 Member/Co-opted Member Name
  - 2.1.2 Ward
  - 2.1.3 Basic Salary / Allowance
  - 2.1.4 Senior / Civic Salaries
  - 2.1.5 Care Allowance
  - 2.1.6 Working Expenses
  - 2.1.7 Subsistence
  - 2.1.8 Travel

## 3. Summary of Payments

- 3.1 2021/22 evidences an overall increase of 0.84% (£10.6k) in payments to Members in the financial year ending 31 March 2022, when comparing to the financial year ending 31 March 2021.
- 3.2 The Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales awarded Members a 1.06% increase to the annual Basic Salary rate (£14,218 to £14,368) effective from the 01 April 2021. The total Basic Salary was therefore expected to increase accordingly during 2021/22, however due to one member electing to forego the increase, and other resigning on 31 December 2021 and not being replaced, the actual increase amounted to 0.77%.
- 3.3 Senior Salary payments were very marginally up by 0.95% (£2,142), however when you factor in £4.6k contribution from the Pension Fund towards the Chair of Pensions and Investment Committee, the actual cost to that element of budget did reduce from that of 2020/21 by 1.08%, primarily due to a vacancy on Cabinet during the year.

- 3.4 There were no Reimbursement of Cost of Care payments during the 2021/22, which would be attributed to impact of the pandemic.
- 3.5 There were no claims for Working Expenses during 2020/21.
- 3.6 There were no claims for Subsistence during 2020/21.
- 3.7 Travel reimbursements increased by £424 to £2.8k from 2020/21, despite some Covid restrictions being eased, however it is important to note that pre-pandemic travel expenses were in the region of £80k per annum..
- 3.7 Payments to Co-opted and Independent Members increased by circa 20% totalling £20.2k, due to an increased number of meetings, however considerably less than the 2019/20 pre pandemic of £37k

**4. Statutory Officers**

- 4.1 The Solicitor to the Council (Monitoring Officer) commented as follows:  
“The recommendation is supported from a legal point of view.”
- 4.2 The Head of Finance and Section 151 Officer notes the content of the report.

**5. Members’ Interests**

All Members will have a personal interest in this matter but do not have a prejudicial interest due an exemption within the Code of Conduct for such matters. Members will be required to sign the form declaring their personal interest before the end of the meeting.

<b>Recommendation:</b>	<b>Reason for Recommendation:</b>
<b>That the report is noted.</b>	<b>Ensuring this information is available in the public domain within the required timescale</b>

<b>Relevant Policy (ies):</b>	Members’ Schedule of Remuneration		
<b>Within Policy:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Within Budget:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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