

Agenda Item No: 1.8

Appointment of Independent Renumeration Panel: Members Allowance Scheme

To: Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Board

Meeting Date: 28 July 2021

Public report: Yes

Lead Member: Mayor Dr Nik Johnson

From: Robert Parkin, Chief Legal Officer & Monitoring Officer

Key decision: No

Recommendations: The Combined Authority Board is recommended to:

a) agree that an Independent Remuneration Panel be requested to review the Members' Allowance Scheme for the Combined Authority in relation to the Mayor's allowance.

Voting arrangements: A simple majority of all Members present and voting.

1. Purpose

1.1 The Combined Authority Board is asked to agree that an Independent Remuneration Panel be requested to review the Members' Allowance Scheme for the Combined Authority in relation to the Mayor's allowance.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Members' Allowance Scheme was adopted by the Combined Authority Board on 28 June 2017 following a report from the Independent Remuneration Panel dated April 2017. The scheme included the allowance paid to the Mayor.
- 2.2 A review of the Members' Allowance Scheme was undertaken in 2018/19 which recommended an allowance of £80,000 per annum should be payable to the Mayor to reflect the changing role and responsibilities since 2017. This is subject to an annual increase based on the consumer price index.
- 2.3 The Independent Remuneration Panel in 2017 advised that a review of the scheme should be undertaken every 24 months and in light of the change in leadership at the Combined Authority it is prudent at this time for a review of the current Member Allowance Scheme to be undertaken.
- 2.4 The Monitoring Officer has contacted the Constituent Councils to source a suitable Panel and found that East Cambridgeshire District Council has a constituted Panel which can review the Members Allowance Scheme.

Significant Implications

3. Financial Implications

- 3.1 The estimated cost of the panel is £20 per hour with a maximum of £150 per day per panel member plus expenses. The panel usually consists of 2-3 persons. There will be a fee from the host authority for supporting the panel. The total costs are expected to be around £2,545.
- 3.2 Further budgetary provision to cover any additional Member allowances will be dependent on the outcome of any recommendation made by the Independent Remuneration Panel.

4. Legal Implications

4.1 The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003/1021 provides for the appointment of independent remuneration panels.

5. Background Papers

- 5.1 Combined Authority Board Report 28 June 2017
- 5.2 Combined Authority Board Report 28 November 2018

5.3