

<p><b>SUBJECT: Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales: Annual Report</b></p> <p><b>MEETING: Democratic Services Committee</b></p> <p><b>DATE: 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2017</b></p> <p><b>DIVISIONS/WARDS AFFECTED: All</b></p>
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## **1 PURPOSE**

- 1.1 To provide the committee with the latest draft report for 18-19 of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales (IRPW).

## **2 BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The Independent Remuneration Panel is a permanent body, independent from any other organisation, including, the Welsh Government, and the Welsh Local Government Association.

## **3 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 3.1 Members are invited to consider the draft report and decide whether it wishes to make any representation to the panel ahead of its consultation deadline on 29<sup>th</sup> November.
- 3.2 The Committee may make recommendations about any amendments to the number and roles which should receive senior salaries ahead of a decision at Council at its annual meeting in May 2018.

## **4 KEY ISSUES**

- 4.1 The Panel operates under the provisions of The Local Authorities (Allowances for Members) (Wales) Regulations 2007. It is tasked with setting the maximum level of allowances payable each year to elected and co-opted members of councils as well as setting the maximum number of senior salaries that can be paid to members.
- 4.3 Maintaining the democratic values of local government is not cost-free. Members of local authorities represent the interests of local people, undertake the governance of local communities, and secure appropriate value-for-money public services for local tax-payers through effective scrutiny. These are significant and considerable tasks and payments are made available to encourage a diversity of willing and able people to undertake local governance through their elected, appointed or co-opted roles.
- 4.4 The Panel's Annual Report, including proposals which would have effect from 2018 has now been published. It has increased the basic salary for councillors by £200 p.a. – an increase of 1.49%, effective from April 2018. The rate payable for senior salaries is not increased other than the element which is made up of the basic salary. Other salaries are set out within the body of the report. The schedule of remuneration which sets out the posts that receive allowances in 2017-18 is available via [this link](#).

## **5. REASONS**

- 5.1 To ensure that the committee is aware of the determinations of the panel and its implications for the authority

## **6 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 The increases in basic allowances stated in the report will cost an additional £8600. Other changes will be subject to any recommendations made by the committee.

## **7. FUTURE GENERATIONS ASSESSEMENT INCLUDING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS:**

- 7.1 This report does not propose any change in policy or service and so no assessment has been completed.

## **8. SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING IMPLICATIONS**

None

## **9. AUTHOR**

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