

<p>SUBJECT: Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales: Annual Report</p> <p>MEETING: Democratic Services Committee</p> <p>DATE: 3rd December 2018</p> <p>DIVISIONS/WARDS AFFECTED: All</p>
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1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To provide the committee with the latest draft report for 19-20 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 who review the levels of remuneration payable to Councillors across Wales.

3 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 Members are invited to consider the draft report and decide whether it wishes to make any representation to the panel as part of the consultation process.

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 draft Annual Report, including proposals which would have effect from 2019 has now been published and is attached at Appendix A. The final report for 2019-2020 will be published in February 2019.
- 4.5 In summary the IRPW propose the following changes:
- An increase of £268 to the basic salary for all councillors which will rise to £13,868.
 - An increase of £800 (inclusive of the rise in the basic salary) for all members of the executive.
 - Removal of banding options for the chairman dependent on level of responsibility. All civic heads will now receive a total payment, inclusive of the basic salary, of £22,568 (2018-19 - £19,300) and the deputy will receive £17,568 (2018-19 - £14,300)

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 allowances to councillors, the executive and the civic roles will result in additional budget pressures of £22,316.

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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