

London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham

Report to: Full Council

Date: 13 July 2022

Subject: Revisions to the Members' Allowances Scheme 2022-23

Report of: The Leader of the Council - Councillor Stephen Cowan

Responsible Director: David Tatlow – Director of Corporate Resources

Summary

This report requests approval to update the Members' Allowances Scheme approved by Council at its meeting in May 2022.

Recommendation

1. That the revised Members' Allowances Scheme 2022/23 as set out in the report and attached as Appendix 1, be approved.
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Wards Affected: All

H&F Values	Summary of how this report aligns to the H&F Values
Creating a compassionate council	The revisions recommended in this report will make the role of Mayor more inclusive and accessible to a wider range of councillors.

Financial Impact

Every councillor is entitled to a basic allowance. Due to the responsibilities undertaken by some Councillors, they are also entitled to a Special Responsibility Allowance (SRA). The changes proposed in this report will result in additional annual costs of £3,504.52. It is proposed that this is funded in 2022/23 from corporate contingency budgets and included as part of the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy and budget setting process for 2023/24.

Andre Mark, Head of Finance (Corporate Services), dated 5 July 2022

Verified by Andrew Lord, Head of Strategic Planning and Monitoring, dated 5 July 2022

Legal Implications

Under Regulation 4 of the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 (the Regulations), the Council has the powers to make a scheme to provide for the payment of a basic allowance and any other allowance permitted by the Regulations. This report is seeking approval to amend the scheme approved by Full Council in May 2022. The proposals contained within the report are in line with the Regulations, Local Government Act 2000 and appropriate regulations.

Adesuwa Omoregie - Assistant Director Legal Services, dated 5 July 2022

Background Papers Used in Preparing This Report

None.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Proposals

1. Council approved the 2022/23 Members' Allowances scheme at its meeting in May 2022. This paper is seeking approval to increase the Mayor's special responsibility allowance from £11,695.48 to £15,200 per year, an increase of £3,504.52.
2. The role of the Mayor requires a significant time commitment in addition to their duties as a councillor. The proposed increase takes into account both the additional time commitment and the need to ensure the role is inclusive and accessible to a wide range of councillors in the borough.

Reasons for Decision

3. The Council is required under the Local Government Act 2000 and the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 to approve any amendments to the approved scheme.

List of Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Revised Members' Allowances Scheme 2022/23