

London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham

Report to: Full Council

Date: 19 October 2022

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

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

Report Author: Kayode Adewumi – Assistant Director, Democratic, Registration and Coroner's Services

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 and revised in July 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 cost of £2,943.00. 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.

Alex Pygram, Head of Finance - signed on 6 October 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 and revised in July. The proposals contained within the report are in line with the Regulations, Local Government Act 2000 and appropriate regulations.

Grant Deg, Assistant Director – Legal Services - signed on 6 October 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 and further revised it in July. This paper is seeking to pay a special responsibility allowance of £2,943.00 for the newly created Lead Member for Energy Crisis Support post.
2. The postholder will be working with the Cabinet Member for Social Inclusion and Community Safety:
 - Overseeing the provision of warm hubs to residents
 - Reviewing residents access to energy
 - Partnership working with organisations supporting vulnerable residents suffering from significant cost of living pressures

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