

2018 Review of Members' Allowances

Purpose of report

For decision.

Summary

The Independent Remuneration Panel was last convened in 2012. Since then there have been some minor changes to the LGA's governance arrangements but the overall structure has remained broadly unchanged.

In 2017, the Constitution Review Task and Finish Group recommended that a review of Members' allowances should be undertaken every 4 years and following General Assembly agreement the Constitution was amended to reflect this.

In 2018, Lord Best was invited to reconvene the Independent Remuneration Panel that he has chaired since 2009. The Panel's report, its conclusions and recommendations are set out at **Appendix 1**. The current scheme for reimbursement of Workforce Employer Bodies, which is annexed at the LGA main Scheme of Members' Allowances, is attached at **Appendix 2**.

Recommendations

That the LGA Executive;

1. Thanks the Independent Review Panel for their work and accepts the conclusions set out in the report at **Appendix 1**.
2. Agrees the five recommendations of the Panel – that the LGA;
 - 2.1 Amends its Member role descriptions to show the anticipated weekly time commitment in hours rather than in days.
 - 2.2 Amends the role descriptions of vice chairs to specify that vice chairs are expected to “provide peer support and mentoring to individual councillors and groups of councillors” as part of their core responsibilities. Up to 10 further formal peer days may be paid at the standard day rate. (**Appendix 3**)
 - 2.3 Adds the chair of the Fire Services Management Committee to the list of positions for which travel expenses are reimbursed.
 - 2.4 Replaces the special responsibility allowance paid to members of the Workforce Employer Bodies with the Members' Day Rate and brings those appointments into the main LGA scheme of allowances.
 - 2.5 Replaces the current carers' allowance of £7.83 per hour (equivalent to the national minimum wage) with the Living Wage and London Living Wage.



LGA Executive
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