

Time start: 2.00 pm
Time finished: 3.45pm

**INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL
5 JULY 2004**

Present: Mary Carswell
Sue Holmes
Shameem Malooq
Ian Samways
Nigel Sutherland

Michael Foote
Steve Dunning
Sarah Turner

01/04 Appointment of Chair

Resolved to appoint Ian Samways as Chair of the Panel.

02/04 Appointment of Vice Chair

Resolved to appoint Mary Carswell as Vice Chair of the Panel.

03/04 Apologies

There were no apologies for absence.

04/04 Late Items

There were no late items.

05/04 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 4 July 2003 were noted.

**06/04 Presentation on the Council's Political
Management Arrangements**

The Panel received a presentation from Michael Foote, Director of Corporate Services and Deputy Chief Executive, on the Council's Political Management Arrangements.

07/04 Current Members' Allowances Scheme

The Panel received a presentation from Steve Dunning, Assistant Director – Democratic Services on the statutory Guidance on Members' Allowances and the Council's current Members' Allowances Scheme.

The Panel felt that certain aspects of the Scheme needed further consideration at a future meeting. These were:

- Whether a group consisting of two members should be eligible to receive a leader's and deputy leader's allowance.
- Whether an allowance should be paid to co-optees.
- Whether to apply an index link to the basic and special responsibility allowances.
- To consider the attendances of Members at Licensing and Appeals meetings, particularly considering the new Licensing laws due to come in to effect early next year.
- To consider Members Allowances against the Council's current financial position, and to receive a breakdown of spending on Members' Allowances to identify, where possible, trends in under or over provision.
- To receive information on Allowances paid by comparator Authorities.
- To consider whether Members of the Adoption Panel should receive a special responsibility allowance. The Panel asked to receive information on the responsibilities of Members on the Panel and how many meetings there were each year.

08/04 Local Government Pension Scheme

The Panel received information on the Local Government Pension Scheme available to Members.

09/04 Constitutional Appointments

The Panel noted the constitutional appointments for 2004/05.

10/04 Appointments to Outside Bodies and Charities

The Panel received details of Members' appointments to outside bodies and charities to enable them to get a better understanding of Members commitments.

11/04 I&DeA Members Allowances Survey

The Panel considered a newly published survey produced by the I&DeA on Members Allowances around the country. The information did not go in to detail and the Panel asked that more detailed data be provided for the next meeting.

12/04 Date of Next Meeting

The Panel agreed the next meeting would be held at 2.00pm on Friday 20 August 2004 to consider the issues raised and that each political group leader or deputy leader would be invited to address the Panel for 15 minutes each.

MINUTES END