

Wigan Council

Notice under the Local Authorities (Members Allowances)(England) Regulations 2003

- 1 In April 2025, the Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) produced a report following a two day Panel in February 2025.
- 2 On 21 May 2025, the Council considered the report and agreed to the implementation of the recommendations of the IRP
- 3 Below are the Panel's Recommendations in relation to basic allowance and additional special responsibility allowances as accepted by the Council with effect from 21 May 2025:

Basic allowance for all 75 Members **£14,822**

Additional Special Responsibility Allowances payable

Executive Leader	£56,153
Deputy Leader	£28,905
Other Executive Members (6)	£20,037
Lead Members (8)	£6,612
Chairmen of the following Committees:	
• Licensing/Regulation	£13,355
• Planning	£13,355
• Scrutiny (4)	£8,905
• Audit Governance & Standards	£8,906
Vice-Chairmen of the following Committees:	
• Licensing/Regulation	£3,476
• Planning	£3,476
Leader main opposition group	£8,905
Deputy Leader of main opposition group:	
£50 per Member if 14 or more Members	
Audit, Standards and Governance Committee Co-optees:	
• Independent	£1,500
• Parish - £59 p/half day/£118 p/day	

Below is a summary of the Panel's other recommended changes to the current scheme. All were accepted by Council:-

Where there are two Main Opposition Groups of equal size

If there are two Main Opposition Groups of equal size then each Main Opposition Group Leader should be able to receive a Main Opposition Group Leader's SRA based on the following formula, subject to any annual indexation applied from the Councils' Annual Meeting on 21st May 2025 for the next 4 years:

- Main Opposition Group Leader's SRA (£8,905) ÷ by two = £4,453
- Plus £250 per Group Member

SRAs considered but not recommended

The following posts are not paid an SRA

- The Vice Chairs of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees
- Leaders of Other Opposition Groups

Maintaining the 1-SRA only rule and exceptions

The Wigan Council Members' Allowances scheme maintains the one-SRA only rule, with the exception of when a Member chairs a Standards Hearings – not applicable to the Chair of the Audit, Governance and Standards Chair.

The Co-optees' Allowance – the Parish (Standards) Co-optees (2)

The two Parish Members of the Audit, Governance and Standards Committee continue to be able to claim a Co-optees' Allowance of £59 per half day or £118 per full day, subject to any annual indexation applied from the Councils' Annual Meeting on 21st May 2025 for the next 4 years

The Audit Co-optees (2)

The Co-optees' Allowance for the two (Independent) Co-opted Audit Members of the Audit, Governance and Standards Committee, is reset at £1,500 per year, subject to any annual indexation applied from the Councils' Annual Meeting on 21st May 2025 for the next 4 years.

The Dependants' Carers' Allowance (DCA)

The DCA should be maintained and claimable at the following maximum rates:

- Childcare: maximum hourly rate claimable at the National Living Wage
- Other care: maximum rate hourly claimable at the rate charged by the Council for the employment of a personal assistant for care for elderly or people with disabilities.

Travel and Subsistence Allowances - Within the Authority

The Basic Allowance continues to be deemed to cover all in-authority travel and subsistence costs.

Travel and Subsistence Allowances - Outwith the Authority

The current rates and terms and conditions for claiming Travel and Subsistence Allowances outwith the Authority are maintained.

Other Issues – The Mobile Phone Allowance

There is no change to the current Mobile Phone Allowance of £10 per month (net).

Other Issues – Remuneration paid to Tenant Representatives appointed the Council's Housing Advisory Panel (HAP)

The payment made to Tenant Representatives appointed to HAP is reset at £1,080 per year, subject to any annual indexation applied from the Councils' Annual Meeting on 21st May 2025 for the next 4 years.

Other Issues – Payments to Members of School Appeals Panels

The remuneration for Members of School Appeals Panels are reset as follows:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| • School Admissions Appeals Members | £50 per day |
| • School Exclusions Appeals Members | £75 per day |

This recommended payment is inclusive of all expected preparatory work and travel unless an Appeals Panel Member travels from outwith the Council area in which case they should be able to claim travel expenses on the same basis as elected Members.

Indexation

The following indices are applied to the remuneration and allowances paid to Members of Wigan Council and other roles from the Council's Annual Meeting on 21st May 2025 for the next 4 years, up to the end of the municipal year 2028/29, the maximum length permitted by the 2003 Allowances Regulations:

- i. **Basic Allowance, SRAs (including those paid in accordance with the GMCA Order), Co-optees' Allowances and remuneration paid to the Tenant Representatives on HAP:**
 - Indexed to the annual percentage salary increase for local government staff (at spinal column 43) as agreed each year by the National Joint Council for Local Government Services; to be implemented from the start of the municipal year, for which it is applicable.
- ii. **Mileage Allowance (Outwith only):**
 - Members' mileage allowances rates indexed to HMRC AMAP rates.
- iii. **Subsistence Allowances (Outwith only):**
 - The subsistence allowances should continue to be indexed to the same rates that are

applicable to Officers.

iv. **The Dependants' Carers' Allowance:**

- Childcare rate: maximum hourly rate claimable indexed to the National Living Wage.
- Other care rate: maximum hourly rate claimable indexed to the hourly rate charged by the Council for the employment of a personal assistant for care for elderly or people with disabilities

Implementation

The new scheme of allowances based on the recommendations contained in this report is adopted from the date of the Councils' Annual Meeting on 21st May 2025.

A copy of the Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel can be viewed online at the following address and item 8a on the agenda:-

[Independent Remuneration Panel Report May 2025](#)

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