

WLGA MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME

Purpose

1. For the WLGA Council to approve the WLGA Members' Allowances Scheme for WLGA Senior Office Holders.

Background

2. The WLGA Council previously determined that the Members' Allowances Scheme will be reviewed on an annual basis by the Audit Committee.
3. The WLGA Members' Allowances Scheme is applied on an annual basis, effective from the date of each Annual General Meeting.
4. The Scheme is voluntary, and members can choose whether to receive their allowance. In line with local authorities' own practices the WLGA Scheme is made publicly available via the WLGA's website.
5. Members will note that the WLGA Members' Allowances Scheme is not within the remit of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales.
6. The WLGA Audit Committee considered the WLGA Members' Allowances Scheme in October 2020 and a report was considered and agreed at the WLGA AGM on 23rd October 2020.
7. It was agreed that, although not within the remit of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales, future annual changes to the WLGA Members' Allowances Scheme should be linked to the Panel's determinations for any annual changes for councillors' salaries in Wales.
8. The Audit Committee also recommended that a more comprehensive review of WLGA Members' Allowances be undertaken ahead of the new municipal term, for the new Association, to reflect the changing demands and responsibilities on senior members. WLGA Council endorsed this recommendation at the AGM on 23rd October. WLGA officials are exploring options with the LGA to consider the LGA's approach to periodic independent reviews of its allowances scheme.
9. The Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales has determined a 1.06% increase for councillors' salaries from 2021-22. The WLGA Members' Allowances Scheme for 2021-22 is therefore:

	2021-22 (inclusive of 1.06% uplift)
Leader	£5,558.30
Presiding Officer	£5,558.30
Deputy Leader	£4,446.64
Deputy Presiding Officer (Majority Group)	£2,223.32
Group Leader (Plaid Cymru)	£2,223.32
Group Leader (Conservatives)	£2,223.32
Group Leader (Independent)	£2,223.32
Total Member Allowances Budget	£24,456.52

10. The above is a corrected version of the table included in the Members' Allowances Report presented to the AGM on 23rd October 2020.

Other Member Allowances

11. Some WLGA nominated positions on LGA boards may be entitled to receive remuneration separately through the LGA's Members' Allowances Scheme¹, including WLGA representatives on:
 - LGA Executive Advisory Board £2,919
 - Employers' Side Bodies £328 Day Rate
12. Furthermore, Welsh local authority members may be appointed to a range of LGA Boards. Members appointed to LGA Boards will be entitled to receive allowances ranging from £2,919 (member), £8,755 (vice chair) to £17,511 (chair). These members are appointed as representatives of the LGA Groups and not on behalf of the WLGA.

Recommendations

- 13. Members are invited to note the WLGA Members' Allowances Scheme for 2021-22.**

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¹ [LGA Scheme of Members' Allowances | Local Government Association](#)