

## Full Council 10 April 2008

### Report of the Head of Civic, Democratic and Legal Services

#### Standards Committee – Recommendation in respect of Members' Allowances Scheme.

##### Summary

1. This report presents the recommendation of the Standards Committee in respect of an alteration to the Members' Allowances Scheme.

##### Background

2. At its meeting on 14 March 2008, the Standards Committee considered a report which asked them to recommend to Council certain changes to the composition and constitution of the Committee, in order to meet the provisions of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 and associated requirements.
3. Details of the Standards Committee's recommendations in relation to the above report are set out in the Part B minutes attached as Annex A to this report. Recommendations (i) to (iv) in those minutes have been incorporated into a wider report on changes to the Council's Constitution and are dealt with in the recommendations of the Executive, at item 7 on this agenda. Recommendation (v) remains to be considered by Council and is dealt with in this report.
4. The recommendation in question relates to a proposed alternation to the Members' Allowances Scheme, as follows:
  - (v) That provision be included in the Members' Allowances Scheme to withdraw members' allowances during the period a Member is suspended from office as a result of the finding of the Adjudication Panel for England or the Standards Committee that the Member had failed to comply with the Members' Code of Conduct.

## **Consultation**

5. No consultation has taken place on the recommendation, which has been referred directly from the Standards Committee. Any relevant consultation on the report considered by the Committee was carried out in advance of their meeting.

## **Options**

7. Council can choose to approve or not to approve the Standards Committee's recommendation.

## **Analysis**

8. The approval and amendment of the Members' Allowances Scheme is a function reserved to full Council under the Constitution. Council is therefore obliged to consider the recommendation of the Standards Committee in respect of this matter.

## **Implications**

9. There are no known implications in relation to the following in terms of dealing with the specific matter before Members, namely to consider the recommendation of the Standards Committee:
  - Financial
  - Human Resources (HR)
  - Equalities
  - Legal
  - Crime and Disorder
  - Property
  - Other

## **Risk Management**

10. In compliance with the Council's risk management strategy, there are no known risks associated with the recommendations in this report.

## **Recommendations**

11. I recommend that Full Council endorses the recommendation of the Standards Committee referred to in paragraph 4 above.

## **Reason:**

In compliance with the requirements of the Council's Constitution.

**Contact details:**

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**Chief Officer Responsible for the report:**

Quentin Baker  
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**Report Approved**

**Date** 2/4/08

**Specialist Implications Officer(s)** None

**Wards Affected:**

**All**

**For further information please contact the author of the report**

**Annexes**

Annex A - Part B minutes of Standards Committee meeting on 14 March 2008

**Background Papers**

Report to Standards Committee on 14 March 2008, entitled *Standards Committee – Constitutional Changes* (available on the Council's website)