

Gloucester City Council

Meeting:	General Purposes Committee Council	Date:	15 July 2024 18 July 2024
Subject:	Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel		
Report Of:	Chair of the Independent Remuneration Panel		
Wards Affected:	All		
Key Decision:	No	Budget/Policy Framework:	No
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Appendices:	1. Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To report the recommendation of the Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) with regard to a new Member role created by the Leader of the Council.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 General Purposes Committee is asked to **RESOLVE TO RECOMMEND** to Council:
- (1) That the recommendations contained in the Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel (Appendix 1) be approved.
 - (2) A title for the role.
- 2.2 Council is asked to **RESOLVE** that the recommendations contained in the Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel (Appendix 1) be approved.

3.0 Background and Key Issues

- 3.1 Following the local elections in May 2024, the Independent Remuneration Panel received a request from the Leader of the Council to consider whether a Special Responsibility Allowance (SRA) should be attached to a newly created Member role and, if so, to make a recommendation on the appropriate level of remuneration.
- 3.2 The Leader of the Council advised that he had created a new role to support himself and other Cabinet Members on special projects and the maximisation of commercial income. The Panel received some basic information about the new role via email and met with the Leader of the Council on 5 June to discuss the responsibilities and time commitment in detail.
- 3.3 Appendix 1 is the Chair's report, which sets out the Panel's considerations and recommends that an SRA be payable at the same level as the SRAs for the Chairs

of Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Planning Committee, in recognition of the responsibilities and time commitment expected of the role. The Panel has made some additional recommendations in support of good governance surrounding the operation of the role.

4.0 Social Value Considerations

4.1 Not applicable.

5.0 Environmental Implications

5.1 Not applicable.

6.0 Alternative Options Considered

6.1 The Panel considered not recommending an SRA be attached to the role, however, it is their view that the role entails responsibilities and a time commitment over and above that which could be expected of an ordinary Councillor, and that it should therefore attract an SRA.

7.0 Reasons for Recommendations

7.1 When agreeing a Members' Allowances Scheme or changes to a Members' Allowances Scheme, the Council is required to have regard to the recommendations of an Independent Remuneration Panel. The recommendations in the attached report represent the views of the Council's appointed Panel in light of the evidence reviewed.

8.0 Future Work and Conclusions

8.1 If the recommended SRA is approved, it is proposed that it is backdated to 20 May when the role was created.

8.2 A revised Scheme will be published on the Council's website.

9.0 Financial Implications

9.1 If approved, the cost of the Members' Allowances Scheme will be increase by £5373 per year, taking the total cost of the Scheme to £410,601 based on current appointments and without any travelling, subsistence or carers' costs.

(Financial Services have been consulted in the preparation this report.)

10.0 Legal Implications

10.1 Under the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003, the Council is required to establish and maintain an independent remuneration panel which makes recommendations to Council on the matter of Members' allowances. The Council must have regard to the recommendations of the Panel when agreeing or amending its Scheme.

(One Legal have been consulted in the preparation this report.)

11.0 Risk & Opportunity Management Implications

11.1 The Panel are satisfied that their recommendations do not present any risk to the Council.

12.0 People Impact Assessment (PIA):

12.1 As the proposal relates to one role and potential amendment to the Scheme of Members' Allowances, a PIA was not deemed necessary.

13.0 Community Safety Implications

13.1 None.

14.0 Staffing & Trade Union Implications

14.1 None.

Background Documents: None