

**COUNCIL**

**Date** 13 SEPTEMBER 2012

**Title** **CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS - REVISION OF MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME**

**1. PURPOSE/SUMMARY**

To present to Council changes to the Members' Allowances Scheme following the Leader's announced Cabinet changes.

**2. KEY ISSUES**

- The Council has a Members' Allowances Scheme which was approved by Council in November 2011.
- The Leader proposes two amendments to the scheme regarding Upper and Lower level allowance payments and the use of special payments with no increase in the overall budget.
- These amendments are set out within this report and, if agreed, will take effect from today's meeting (13 September 2012).

**3. RECOMMENDATION**

That the Council approves the amendments to the Members' Allowances Scheme as recommended by the Leader of the Council and authorises the Chief Solicitor to make such typographical amendments as are necessary to produce revised clean text copies of the Constitution.

<b>Wards Affected</b>	All
<b>Forward Plan Reference No. (if applicable)</b>	N/A
<b>Portfolio Holder(s)</b>	Cllr Alan Melton, Leader of the Council
<b>Report Originator</b>	Carol Pilson, Corporate Director Anna Goodall, Head of Governance & Legal Ian Hunt, Chief Solicitor
<b>Contact Officer(s)</b>	Paul Medd, Chief Executive Rob Bridge, Corporate Director and Chief Finance Officer Alan Pain, Corporate Director and Monitoring Officer
<b>Background Paper(s)</b>	The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2003 Fenland District Council's Members' Allowances Scheme Scope Of Members' Allowances Review, May 2011 Review of Members' Allowances Scheme, November 2011

# Amendments to the Constitution

Conventions:

Only relevant parts of the sections are included, amendments are explicitly shown rather than to be inferred.

Where part of the existing text is being removed it is struck through: ~~Example~~

Where additional text is added it is underlined: Example

Instructions shown in [square brackets]

## MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME

### SCHEDULE OF ALLOWANCES

The following allowances are applicable with effect from 3 November 2011:

#### 1. MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES

##### (i) Basic Allowance

Payable to all members £4,531 p.a.

##### (ii) Special Responsibility Allowance

Payable to the following post holders:

Leader of the Council	£15,994 p.a.
Deputy Leader of the Council	£6,343 p.a.
Cabinet Member with more Portfolio Holder responsibilities (total of 5) including Leader and Deputy Leader	£9,062 p.a.
Cabinet Member with less Portfolio Holder responsibilities (total of 6)	£8,155 p.a.
Chairman of Overview and Scrutiny Panel	£7,929 p.a.
Vice-Chairman of Overview and Scrutiny Panel	£1,586 p.a.
Chairman of Planning Committee	£7,929 p.a.
Vice-Chairman of Planning Committee	£1,586 p.a.
Chairman of Licensing Committee	£3,172 p.a.
Chairman of Conduct Committee	£1,586 p.a.
Chairman of Staff Committee	£1,586 p.a.
Chairman of Corporate Governance Committee	£1,586 p.a.
Chairman of Council	£3,987 p.a.
Leader of the Main Opposition Group	£5,528 p.a.
Leader of other Opposition Groups	£1,586 p.a.

- \* The Leader shall assign portfolio allowances to each of the members of Cabinet. One Portfolio Holder shall receive two Lower level allowances. ~~one Higher level and one Lower level allowance.~~
- \*\* payable in addition to the “Civic Dignitaries” allowance paid under the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 (see (v) overleaf)

The Leader of the Council shall be able to award special payments to members not in receipt of a portfolio holder or chairmanship SRA for carrying out special projects. ~~Payments will not be more than £1,500 individually and~~ The total yearly budget will not exceed £6,000.