

Report To: Standards Committee

Date of Meeting: 13th July 2012

Report Author: Monitoring Officer

Title: Remuneration of Independent Member of Standards Committee

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To advise Members of the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales insofar as they relate to Independent Members of Standards Committee.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales (the Panel) published its first Annual Report. The report deals with the remuneration of elected and co-opted members of local authorities for the year 2012/13. The Council is required to implement the Panel's recommendations by Section 153 Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011
- 2.2 The Panel has decided to use its powers to prescribe payments. The Panel has set salary bands for elected members of the Council.
- 2.3 The Panel has also decided that for 2012/13 local authorities must pay the following fees to co-opted members:
- Co-opted Chair, Standards Committee £256 daily fee (£128 for half a day)
- Co-opted ordinary member to include Standards Committee £198 daily fee (£99 for half a day)
- 2.4 The payments are capped at a maximum of the equivalent of ten full days a year for each committee to which an individual may be co-opted. Payments are for meeting time only and include time spent on preparation and travel. A half day meeting is defined as up to four hours and a full day meeting is defined as over four hours.
- 2.5 The Panel has also decided that for 2012/13 Councils must provide for a maximum payment of £403 per month to elected members and co-opted members of authorities who incur necessary expenses for the care of children or dependants whilst undertaking their duties. Reimbursements may only be made on production of receipts.

- 2.6 The Panel has also considered the time of travel and subsistence expenses. There is no change to mileage rates that can be claimed for travel. These are set out below:
- 45p per mile up to 10,000 miles
 - 25p per mile over 10,000 miles
 - 5p per passenger per mile – passenger supplement
 - 24p per mile private motor cycles
 - 20p per mile bicycles
- 2.7 Other forms of travel will only be reimbursed on production of a valid receipt. Members should always choose the most cost effective method of travel.
- 2.8 The authority must maintain and publish an annual schedule of member remuneration by no later than 31st July 2012 and send a copy to the Panel.
- 2.9 The authority must make arrangements for publication within its area the total sum paid by it to each member and co-opted member in respect of salary, fees and reimbursement during the year 2012/13 by no later than 30th September 2013.
- 2.10 A member may, if they so wish, forego all or any part of their remuneration.

3 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 That members note the provision of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales Report for 2012/13.