



ADUR & WORTHING  
COUNCILS

**Joint Governance Sub-Committee**

<b>Date:</b>	<b>17 February 2022</b>
<b>Time:</b>	<b>6.30 pm</b>
<b>Venue:</b>	<b>Council Chamber, Town Hall, Worthing</b>

**Committee Membership:**

**Adur District Council:** Councillors; Lee Cowen and Andy McGregor (Adur Chairman).

**Worthing Borough Council:** Councillors; Roy Barraclough (Worthing Chairman) and Cathy Glynn-Davies

**Agenda**

**Part A**

**1. Declarations of Interest**

Members and officers must declare any disclosable pecuniary interests in relation to any business on the agenda. Declarations should also be made at any stage such an interest becomes apparent during the meeting.

If in doubt contact the Legal or Democratic Services representative for this meeting.

**2. Substitute Members**

**3. Temporary Extension of the terms of appointment for members of the Joint Independent Remuneration Panel (Pages 1 - 4)**

To consider a report by the Interim Director for Communities, copy attached as item 3

### **Recording of this meeting**

The Council will be live streaming the meeting. The recording will be available on the Council's website as soon as practicable after the meeting. The Council will not be recording any discussions in Part B of the agenda (where the press and public have been excluded).

For Democratic Services enquiries relating to this meeting please contact:	For Legal Services enquiries relating to this meeting please contact:
Neil terry Senior Democratic Services Officer 01903 221364 neil.terry@worthing.gov.uk	Joanne Lee Solicitor 01903 221134 Joanne.lee@adur-worthing.gov.uk

**Duration of the Meeting:** Four hours after the commencement of the meeting the Chairperson will adjourn the meeting to consider if it wishes to continue. A vote will be taken and a simple majority in favour will be necessary for the meeting to continue.



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Joint Governance Sub-Committee  
17 February 2022  
Agenda Item 3

Ward(s) Affected: All

## **Temporary Extension of the terms of appointment for members of the Joint Independent Remuneration Panel**

**Report by the Interim Director for Communities**

**Officer Contact Details**

**Executive Summary**

### **1. Purpose**

- 1.1 This report seeks to extend the current terms of appointment of the Joint Independent Remuneration Panel Members for a short period to enable a review of Members Allowances for 2022/23 to be conducted and reported to the Joint Governance Committee in March 2022.
- 1.2 The report asks the Sub-Committee to note that a recruitment exercise will be undertaken to select new members of the Joint Independent Remuneration Panel in the new municipal year.
- 1.3 This report asks the sub-committee to note that a future review of the role of the Joint Independent Remuneration Panel, including terms of reference and remuneration of panel members, will be undertaken prior to the recruitment exercise outlined in 1.2 above.

### **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 That the current joint independent remuneration panel membership be extended until Monday 23 May 2022.

- 2.2 To note that a recruitment exercise will be undertaken to select new members of the Joint Independent Remuneration Panel in the new municipal year.
- 2.3 To note that a future review of the role of the Joint Independent Remuneration Panel members, including terms of reference and remuneration, will be undertaken prior to the recruitment process outlined in 2.2 above.

### **3. Context**

- 3.1 In October 2021, the Joint Independent Remuneration Panel had been undertaking a review to recommend the level of allowances for Adur and Worthing Councils for 2022/23. During the course of the review it was identified that the panel members' terms of appointment had expired on 30 November 2019.
- 3.2 There is a requirement for the Panel to be appointed for the rest of the municipal year so that its review can be completed.

### **4. Issues for consideration**

- 4.1 The current scheme of allowances runs until the end of the municipal year, the last review having taken place two years ago and being tied to the NJC pay agreements. There is a requirement for the Panel to complete its review and report back to the Joint Governance Committee in March 2022.

### **5. Engagement and Communication**

- 5.1 Group Leaders have been consulted regarding this matter.

### **6. Financial Implications**

- 6.1 There are no additional costs associated with completing the review in relation to payment of Members of the panel.

### **7. Legal Implications**

- 7.1 An Independent Remuneration Panel is a requirement of the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) Regulations 2003 (the 2003 Regulations).

7.2 Under Reg.10 of the 2003 Regulations, each authority must annually approve a members' allowances scheme that will operate for the following municipal year. This is so even if the scheme of members' allowances previously adopted in accordance with the Panel's recommendations, together with any agreed uplift, is to 'roll over' to the new scheme year.

7.2 The 2003 Regulations states that before an authority makes or amends a scheme, the authority shall have regard to the recommendations made in relation to it by an independent remuneration panel.

7.3 The 2003 Regulations set out the role of the Panel to make recommendations to the authority as to the amount of basic allowance which should be payable to its elected members. There is also the authority to make recommendations regarding special responsibility allowances (SRA) – and the roles and responsibilities for which the SRA applies, expenses or arranging the care of children and dependants.

## **Sustainability & Risk Assessment**

### **1. Economic**

1.1 The panel has previously recognised that the Members' Allowances scheme recognises that public service, rather than material reward, should remain the primary motivation for involvement in local government, whilst at the same time, it should aim to attract and retain Members who are representative of the demographic make-up of the District.

### **2. Social**

#### **2.1 Social Value**

2.1.1 Matter considered but no issue identified

#### **2.2 Equality Issues**

2.2.1 Having an allowance scheme that supports all members in covering the costs of being a member allows the Councils to attract and retain Members who are representative of the demographic make-up of the District.

#### **2.3 Community Safety Issues (Section 17)**

2.3.1 Matter considered but no issues identified

#### **2.4 Human Rights Issues**

2.4.1 Matter considered but no issues identified

### **3. Environmental**

3.1 Matter considered but no issues identified

### **4. Governance**

4.1 Having a fair scheme of allowances can enable a more diverse pool of candidates and reflect a wider demographic of the District.