



ADUR DISTRICT
C O U N C I L

Council
15 December 2022
8B

**Extract from the minutes of the Joint Audit and Governance Committee - 29
November 2022**

JGC/042/22-23 Members Allowances 2022/23

The report provided details of the Officers' National Joint Council (NJC) pay bargaining agreement for 2022/23 and requests that the Joint Audit & Governance Committee consider the percentage rise to be applied to Members Allowances for 2022/23.

The Committee was asked to consider recommending to Adur and Worthing Councils an increase in the basic allowance of either:

- 5.82% in line with the median average of the NJC pay bargaining agreement for 2022/23; or
- 2% in line with the amount that was budgeted for in the 2022/23 budget.

Members sought clarification in regards to the two options proposed in the report; when the increase would be implemented; whether the Joint Independent Remuneration Panel (JIRP) had been consulted; whether different recommendations could be made to the respective councils and whether the recommendations were binding or subject to a vote at the full council meetings. Officers confirmed that the increases would be back paid from May 2022. The JIRP Chairman had been consulted and was supportive of the proposal to increase allowances by 5.82% in line with the weighted average of the NJC pay bargaining agreement for 2022/23. It was also noted that different recommendations could be made to the respective sovereign councils.

Members debated the proposals whilst acknowledging that the earlier recommendations from the Joint Independent Remuneration Panel and decisions by both Councils were for an increase in allowances in line with the NJC settlement.

The Committee noted that the financial situation had changed since April 2022 and that Members could choose to refuse or take a reduced allowance on an individual basis.

The committee agreed to vote on a separate recommendation to each council.

A proposal from Cllr Boram, that Adur Allowances be increased by 5.82%, was seconded by Cllr McGregor and supported by the Committee following a vote.

A proposal from Cllr James, that Worthing Allowances be increased by 5.82%. The motion was seconded by Cllr White and supported by the Committee following a vote.

Resolved

The Joint Audit & Governance Committee recommended to Adur and Worthing Councils that Members Allowances for 2022/23 be increased by 5.82% in line with the weighted average of the NJC pay bargaining agreement for 2022/23.