

<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<i>Appointment of Members to the Independent Members Allowances Panel</i>
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<i>Isobel Darby (Leader of the Council)</i>
<b>RESPONSIBLE OFFICER</b>	<i>Joanna Swift (Head of Legal &amp; Democratic Services)</i>
<b>REPORT AUTHOR</b>	<i>Mat Bloxham (<a href="mailto:mbloxham@chiltern.gov.uk">mbloxham@chiltern.gov.uk</a>; 01494 732143)</i>
<b>WARD/S AFFECTED</b>	<i>This report is not ward specific</i>

### 1. Purpose of Report

Members are recommended to give delegated authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, to agree the current appointments to the Independent Members Allowances Panel (IMAP) on recommendation of the Appointment of External Members Panel to expedite the process for reviewing the Council's Scheme of Allowances.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

**That authority to fill the current vacancies on the Independent Members Allowances Panel, as recommended by the Appointment of External Members Panel, be delegated to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Head of Legal and Democratic Services.**

### 2. Reasons for Recommendations

To support the timetable for reviewing the current Scheme of Members Allowances and make recommendations in relation to the 2018/19 Scheme that will take effect on 1 April 2018.

### 3. Content of Report

The Council is required under the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 to produce a Scheme of Members Allowances each year. The Council's Scheme was last reviewed by the IMAP in 2013/14, and the Council agreed to index link the annual adjustment of the Scheme for forthcoming years to CPI, and cap it to the staff pay award for that year. The legislation only permits local authorities to link the adjustment of the Scheme to an index for a maximum of four years. As such, the Council is now required to review the current Scheme of allowances prior to the commencement of the 2018/19 Scheme on 1 April 2018.

A Scheme of Members Allowances can only be agreed by Full Council, and Members must have regard to the recommendations of its IMAP. The legislation requires an IMAP to consist of at least 3 Members, and despite efforts to attract applications for vacancies on the Council's Panel one further application is still required. The Council's Constitution requires appointments to the IMAP to be made by Full Council on the recommendation of the Appointment of External Members Panel which shortlists and interviews applicants. The next Council meeting is on 9 January 2017 and if appointments to the Panel are not made until that date the timescale for conducting a review will be limited.

Whilst further efforts are made to attract additional applicants to the Panel, Members are recommended to delegate authority to appoint Members to the IMAP to the Chief Executive in

consultation with the Head of Legal and Democratic Services on recommendation of the Appointment of External Members Panel.

#### **4. Consultation**

*Not applicable*

#### **5. Options**

Members are recommended to agree to delegate authority to appoint Members to the IMAP to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, to facilitate the timescale for conducting a review of the Scheme of Members Allowances and produce a Scheme of Allowances for 2018/19, as required by legislation.

Members may choose to require appointments to the IMAP to be agreed by Full Council however this may delay the timescale for conducting a review prior to 1 April 2018.

#### **7. Corporate Implications**

3.1 Financial - None

3.2 Legal – The Council is required to conduct a review of its current Members Allowances Scheme and agree a scheme for 2018/19 to take effect on 1 April 2018.

#### **8. Next Step**

If Members agree the recommendation, the Appointment of External Members Panel will interview IMAP applicants once an additional application has been received. Once the interviews have been conducted and the Appointment of External Members Panel has recommended the appointments, delegated authority will be exercised by the Chief Executive and meetings of the IMAP will be arranged to carry out a review of the Member Allowances Scheme.

<b>Background Papers:</b>	None other than those referred to in this report
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