



Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Shadow Executive Committee

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| Report Subject | Independent Remuneration Panel |
| Meeting date | 7 November 2018 |
| Report Author | Tanya Coulter Shadow Authority Interim Monitoring Officer 01202 451172 tanya.coulter@bournemouth.gov.uk |
| Status | Public |
| Classification | For decision |
| Key Decision | No |
| Executive summary | <p>This Report seeks the agreement of the Shadow Executive Committee to commence the recruitment of an Independent Remuneration Panel to draw up a Scheme of Members' Allowances for the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Authority. It is a legal requirement for a Council to establish a Panel which is independent to consider the level of Members' Allowances to be applied. The Shadow Authority at its meeting in February 2019 will need to approve a Scheme of Members' Allowances as part of the governance arrangements for the new BCP Council. It is therefore necessary to appoint a Panel now in order to provide for sufficient time within which a review can be undertaken to inform the proposed Scheme.</p> |
| Recommendations | <p>That the Shadow Executive Committee agree:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The recruitment of an Independent Remuneration Panel with immediate effect to prepare a Scheme of |

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| | <p align="center">Members' Allowances for the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council;</p> <p align="center">2. That the recruitment and appointment of the Independent Remuneration Panel be delegated to the Interim Monitoring Officer.</p> |
| Reason for Recommendations | <p>The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (Miscellaneous Provisions) Regulations 2003 provide that a Council establish a Panel which is independent to consider the level of Members Allowances to be applied. The Shadow Authority at its meeting in February 2019 will need to approve a Scheme of Members Allowances as part of the governance arrangements for the new BCP Council. It is therefore necessary to appoint a Panel now to provide for sufficient time within which a review can be undertaken to inform the proposed Scheme.</p> |

Background detail

1. The Local Authorities' (Members' Allowances) (Miscellaneous Provisions) Regulations 2003 requires that the Council uses the services of an Independent Remuneration Panel to consider the level of Members' Allowances to be operated by the Council.
2. The Regulations require that an Independent Panel shall be established and that it shall consist of at least three independent people who do not sit as elected members of the relevant councils.
3. Within a Scheme of Members' Allowances all members are entitled to receive a Basic Allowance. This allowance is intended to recognise the community representative role that members undertake. The Scheme also recognises that some members have special responsibilities attached to the roles they perform within the Council. For example, the role of the Leader, Executive Members, Chairmen of Council and Committees.
4. It is anticipated that once recruitment is complete it will take approximately 8 weeks for the Panel to carry out the necessary background work and research, and produce a report containing recommendations. The intention is for the proposed Scheme to be presented to the Shadow Authority Meeting scheduled for 21 February 2019.
5. It is anticipated that it will be necessary to review the Scheme of Allowances during the first twelve months of the new Council's existence once the roles within the BCP Council are fully established and the work and responsibilities have been fully identified.

Consultation

6. Following the appointment of the Panel it is anticipated that the Panel will invite comments from members of the Shadow Authority by way of a questionnaire. It is

also anticipated that the Panel will undertake some more detailed interviews with individual members, particularly those with special responsibilities.

Summary of Finance and Resourcing Implications

7. There is currently an assumed saving of £500,000 within the BCP Medium Term Financial Plan from the current cost of allowances payable to members of the existing councils. The work of the Panel and the proposed Scheme will enable this figure to be fully identified and included in the budget for 2019/20.

Summary of Legal Implications

8. The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (Miscellaneous Provisions) Regulations 2003 govern the establishment of the scheme necessary to determine the operation of allowances scheme for Members.

Summary of Human Resources Implications

9. There are no human resource implications arising from this report.

Summary of Environmental Impact

10. There are no environmental impacts arising from this report.

Summary of Equalities and Diversity Impact

11. There are no equalities and diversity implications arising from this report.

Summary of Risk Assessment

12. There is a risk that should the panel not be formed and a scheme of Members Allowances is not approved that the new authority will be unable to pay appropriate Members allowances.

Background Papers

None

Appendices

None