

**EXTRACT OF DECISIONS OF STANDARDS COMMITTEE  
MEETING HELD ON 13 MARCH 2003  
DIGEST 17: PUBLICATION DATE: 28 MARCH 2003**

**S.1243 n INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL**

The Chief Executive presented a report which set out the deliberations of the Independent Remuneration Panel which met on Wednesday, 5 March 2003

The Panel had been convened in order to consider outstanding issues following approval of the scheme for Members' Allowances for 2003/2004. This included a request by this Committee that the indexation of Special Responsibility Allowances be not applied and the Panel be requested to consider the most appropriate way of indexing the level of Special Responsibility Allowances for future years.

The Chief Executive pointed out that with regard to the financial implications of the application on the proposals set out, this would be updated for the report presented to Council on 9 April 2003. The Panel had considered carefully the indexation of Special Responsibility Allowances and had taken advice on the mechanisms applied in other Authorities. The Panel considered that there was a clear relationship between the Basic Allowance and the Special Responsibility Allowance and it was important that these were seen as a package. The Panel held the view that a demonstrable means of applying to each a fair and equitable method of review was essential.

In addition to this issue, the Panel had been asked to consider the following which had arisen since the Scheme had been implemented:-

- The role of the Chair of the Human Resources and Appeals Panel.
- A request from the association of Greater Manchester Authorities that allowances be paid to Council representatives on the Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority.
- The level of allowance payable to the Mayor.

**n RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL:**

That the findings of the Independent Remuneration Panel with regard to the following issues be recommended to Council:-

1. That a Special Responsibility Allowance of £5,250.00 be paid to the Chair of the Human Resources and Appeals Committee.  
(Note: In accordance with standing order 17.5, Councillor Higgin asked that his abstention from voting be recorded).

- 2. That a payment of £1728.00 be paid to the Council's representatives on the Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority in accordance with the recommendation of the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities.**  
**(Note: In accordance with standing order 17.5, Councillor Higgin asked that his abstention from voting be recorded).**
- 3. The position be reaffirmed whereby the level of allowances payable in respect of the Special Responsibility Allowance should be increased annually at the same rate as the pay award agreed by the Joint Council for Local Government Services. In light of this, it is recommended that the April 2003 pay award of 3.5% be applied to the allowances as set out in the report whilst recognising that the 3% award backdated to July 2002 and the 1% from October 2002 have not been applied to the initial recommendation.**  
**(Note: In accordance with standing order 17.5 Councillor Higgin asked that his abstention from voting be recorded and Mr Withington asked that his vote against this decision be recorded).**
- 4. That the Mayor's allowance be increased from £12,000 to £12,800, which is the average of allowance paid within Greater Manchester and thereafter increased in line with Local Authority pay awards with effect from the new municipal year.**  
**(Having declared an interest in this item, Councillor Smith asked that his abstention from voting be recorded).**

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**S.1246 n PROBITY IN PLANNING – CODE OF CONDUCT**

**A report of the Monitoring Officer was submitted which presented to Members a revised Code of Conduct for dealing with planning issues.**

**The updated Code has been produced in order to incorporate within the existing Code, which had been agreed on 31 March 2001, an agreed Protocol for Area Board involvement in planning issues and the aspects of the Council's Code of Conduct which had been approved by the Council on 10 April 2002.**

**n RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL**

**That Council be recommended to approve the Code of Conduct for Probity in Planning subject to the description of sites in Paragraph 12.3 of the Code, incorporating measurements which are more easily understood by lay persons.**

**EXTRACT OF DECISIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE  
MEETING HELD ON 19 MARCH 2003  
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**EX.1276 n PROPOSED TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS 2003/2004**

The Leader of the Council presented a report on a proposed timetable of meetings for 2003/2004, which set out three Options for a pattern of meetings for the 2003/2004 Municipal Year.

The proposals included provision within the Timetable for a date within each of the four Cycles for Elected Member Training and joint meetings between Members of the Executive and the Management Team of Chief Officers to discuss Strategic Priorities.

**n RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE COUNCIL**

- 1. That Option 2 be approved but retaining 48 meetings of Area Boards throughout the year.**
- 2. That each meeting within the Timetable be programmed on Outlook on the Council's Intranet.**
- 3. That no meetings whatsoever be held on those dates reserved for Elected Member Training.**

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**EX.1277 n CORPORATE PLAN 2003/2008**

The Leader of the Council presented a report on the Corporate Plan for 2003/2008.

The Corporate Plan is a key part of the Council's Policy Framework and sets out how the Council will achieve its Corporate Aims and Objectives over a five year period.

The Plan enables the Council to manage its performance effectively and determines the delivery of its services to meet the requirements of the community.

**n RECOMMENDATION TO THE COUNCIL**

That the Corporate Plan for 2003/2008, be approved subject to the following amendments:-

**(i) Corporate Aim 2 – Improve Transport and the Environment.**

**Delete: Reduce traffic growth in annual car kilometres travelled on A and B roads (Development Action 2.1).**

**(ii) Corporate Aim 5 – Improving the Quality and Availability of Council Services.**

**Add:**

<b>Development Action</b>	<b>Target</b>
<b>Deliver improved neighbourhood management</b>	<b>Preferred option for housing stock – June 2003</b> <b>Consultation June-September 2003</b> <b>Appraisal of Investment Options by July 2005</b>
<b>Decent Homes Target met</b>	<b>All on decent homes dealt with by 2010</b> <b>One third of homes dealt with by 2004</b> <b>Appraisal of investment options by July 2005</b>

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**EX.1278 n BURY YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN 2003/2004 AND UPDATE TO PLAN  
2002/2005**

**The Leader of the Council submitted a report and draft Bury Youth Justice Plan 2003/2003, together with an update for the plan for 2002/2005 incorporating:-**

**A commentary on the management and resourcing of the Youth Offending Team.**

**An outline of progress against the objectives set in the previous Bury Youth Justice Plan.**

**A summary of strategies for wider prevention of youth crime and learning and development of Youth Offending Team staff.**

**A plan for future delivery against the thirteen performance measures set by the Youth Justice Board for Youth Offending Teams against which they will be assessed.**

**n RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE COUNCIL**

- 1. That the Youth Justice Plan 2003/2004, be approved as submitted and forwarded to the Youth Justice Board.**
- 2. That the Executive place on record its appreciation to the Youth Offending Team Manager and all members of the Team for the excellence of the performance recognised by the Youth Justice Board.**

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**EX.1280 n TREASURY MANAGEMENT ANNUAL STRATEGY AND PLAN**

The Executive Member – Resource submitted a report detailing the successful Treasury Management activity during the financial year 2002/2003 in which the Council was identified as having the third lowest average interest rate on outstanding debt of all Metropolitan Councils.

Investments and debt re-scheduling has secured over £400,000 of income/savings in 2002/2003.

The report also set out:-

- Details of the organisations from which the Council would borrow from and invest in.
- The responsibilities of the Council, the Executive and individual Officers in respect of Treasury Management.
- Proposals for a Treasury Management Strategy for 2003/2004, based on current economic forecasts.
- Suggestions for borrowing limits for 2003/2004.
- Treasury Management Objectives for 2003/2004.

The estimated revenue impact of the Strategy had been incorporated in the Revenue Budget 2003/2004 and also into the forecasts for 2004/2005 and 2005/2006.

**n RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE COUNCIL**

1. That the Council continue to follow the requirements of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy Treasury Management in the public services: Code of Practice 2001.
2. That the Treasury Management Performance in 2002/2003, be noted.
3. That the Treasury Management Policy Statement set out in Paragraph 7.1 and the Treasury Policy Statement set out in Appendix A to the report submitted, be approved.
4. That the Treasury Management Objectives set out in Paragraph 7.1..3 of the report be approved.

5. That the Treasury Strategy set out in Paragraph 7.2 of the report be approved.
6. That the borrowing limits for 2003/2004, as required by the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, be approved as follows:-
  - (i) Overall borrowing limit £120m
  - (II) Short term borrowing limit £40m
  - (iii) Maximum variable rate borrowing proportion 50%
7. That the implementation of the Strategy continue to be reported regularly by the Executive Member – Resource.