

ITEM NO.	
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TITLE	: REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL		
TO / ON	: STANDARDS COMMITTEE (SPECIAL MEETING) COUNCIL	22 OCTOBER 2003	5 NOVEMBER 2003
BY	: CHIEF EXECUTIVE		
STATUS	: FOR PUBLICATION		

1.0 TYPE OF DECISION

1.1 What type of decision is to be taken:-

EXECUTIVE DECISION			COUNCIL DECISION
Key		Non Key	YES

1.2 If a key decision, has it been included in the Forward Plan

Inclusion in Forward Plan	N/A	Date of Plan	
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2.0 SUMMARY

The Independent Remuneration Panel met on 1 October, 2003, to consider whether allowances should be paid to co-opted members and to consider levels of travel and subsistence allowances payable to Elected Members..

3.0 OPTIONS AND RECOMMENDED OPTIONS (with reasons)

To advise or recommend to Council what actions if any should be taken on the recommendations made by the Independent Remuneration Panel.

4.0 THIS REPORT HAS THE FOLLOWING IMPLICATIONS

Corporate Aims

To set up a Members' Allowances Scheme which accords with Government Regulations.

Policy Framework

The level of allowances payable can assist in ensuring that a cross section of the community is represented on the Council.

Statement by Monitoring Officer

Under the Local Authorities (Members Allowances) (England) Regulations 2001, local authorities are required to maintain a panel to make recommendations to the Council about allowances for elected and co-opted members. Before the Council amends an allowance scheme, it must have regard to the recommendations made by the Panel.

Statement by Director of Finance and E-Government

The financial implications will depend on the Committee's views on the recommendations made by the Panel. However, the current budget contains no provision to meet the costs of the items considered by the Panel.

Human Resource IT/Land and Property Implications

None

Wards/Area Boards affected

None

Scrutiny Panel's Interest	None		
Consultations	The Panel is advised by the Chief Executive and supported by an officer from Democratic Services.		
Call-in	Not applicable.		
Briefings	Executive Members/ Chair	None	Chief Executive None

5.0 INTRODUCTION

- 5.1 The Independent Remuneration Panel consists of :
- Colin Smith, OBE (Chair), former Chief Executive of Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council;
 - Gloria Oates, OBE, former Chief Executive of Oldham NHS Trust and Chair of Oldham MBC Standards Committee;
 - Ronald Schwarz, former Headteacher and current Chair of Bury District Citizens Advice Bureau Service;
 - James Sherry, retired civil servant with the Inland Revenue.

The Panel met on Wednesday 1 October 2003, to consider issues relating to allowances for co-opted members and levels of travel and subsistence allowances payable to elected members.

6.0 BACKGROUND

- 6.1 The Local Authorities' (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 provide that a local authority may make provision in its Scheme for the payment of a co-optees' allowance, for attendance at conferences and meetings, to any co-opted and appointed members of a council's committee or sub-committees..
- 6.2 The Regulations also permit local authorities to pay travel and subsistence allowances and to fix the level of those allowances..

7.0 CONCLUSIONS

- 7.1 Members are asked to consider the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel contained in the attached report.

Background documents:

Agenda for the Remuneration Panel which included a list of co-opted and independent members for 2003/2004 and current Member claim forms for travel and subsistence. .

For further information on the details of this report, please contact:
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