

<b>TITLE</b>	: <b>REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL</b>		
<b>TO / ON</b>	: <b>STANDARDS COMMITTEE COUNCIL</b>	<b>13<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2003</b>	<b>9<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2003</b>
<b>BY</b>	: <b>CHIEF EXECUTIVE</b>		
<b>STATUS</b>	: <b>FOR PUBLICATION</b>		

**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 5<sup>th</sup> March to consider outstanding issues arising following its major review of Members' Allowances last year and its report is before Members for consideration.

**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**

<b>Corporate Aims</b>	The level of allowances payable to Elected Members can support their recruitment and retention.
<b>Policy Framework</b>	The level of allowances payable can assist in ensuring that a cross section of the community is represented on the Council.
<b>Statement by Monitoring Officer</b>	Under the Local Authorities ( Members Allowances ) ( England ) Regulations 2001, local authorities are required to maintain a panel to make recommendations to the Council about the level of allowances for elected members. Before the Council amends an allowance scheme, it must have regard to the recommendations made by the Panel.
<b>Statement by Director of Finance and E-Government</b>	The approved budget 2003/4 includes provision of £516,000 for Members' Allowances (including travel and subsistence). The extent to which the Independent Remuneration Panel's proposals can be met from within the budget will be dependent on appointments to individual positions/portfolios.
<b>Human Resource IT/Land and Property Implications</b>	None
<b>Wards/Area Boards affected</b>	None
<b>Scrutiny Panel's Interest</b>	None
<b>Consultations</b>	The Panel is advised by the Chief Executive and supported by an officer from Democratic Services.
<b>Call-in</b>	Not applicable.

**Briefings**

Executive Members/ Chair	None	Chief Executive	None
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**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.
- 5.2 The Panel met on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March, 2003, to consider issues referred to and sets out its findings and recommendations in the attached report.

**6.0 BACKGROUND**

- 6.1 The recommendations made by the Panel with regard to Members' Allowances for 2003/4 were considered by the Standards Committee and Council on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2002.
- 6.2 The Standards Committee agreed the recommendations on allowances but referred back the issue of indexation of Special Responsibility Allowances. This was endorsed by Council.
- 6.3 The attached report addresses this issue and other issues which required consideration by the Panel.

**7.0 CONCLUSIONS**

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

***Background documents:***

Minutes of the Standards Committee and Council dated 16<sup>th</sup> July 2002.  
Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel dated June 2002.

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

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