

Report to:	COUNCIL
Date:	23 May 2023
Reporting Officer:	Sandra Stewart – Chief Executive & Head of Paid Service
Subject:	ALLOWANCE FOR GMCA OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEMBERS
Report Summary:	To consider the recommendations of the GMCA Independent Remuneration Panel regarding Special Responsibility Allowance payments for members of the GMCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee attached herewith at Appendix A and B .
Recommendation:	<p>That Members consider and APPROVE the following recommendations of the GMCA Independent Remuneration Panel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) The IRP recommends that the Members of the GMCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee are paid an annual SRA of £3,228. (ii) The IRP recommends that the Substitute Members of the GMCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee are paid an SRA consisting of two components: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Standing SRA of £536 per year • A Variable SRA of £134.52 for every meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and task and finish group attended (iii) The IRP recommends that the SRA for the Chair of the GMCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee should be £9,684. (iv) The IRP recommends that if the GMCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee appoint a Vice Chair then that post holder should receive an SRA of £4,035. (v) The IRP recommends that the SRAs recommended for the Members, Substitutes, Chair and if so appointed a Vice Chair of the GMCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee are also annually indexed in accordance with the annual percentage cost of living increase that is applied each year as set by the National Joint Council for Local Government Staff, with the indexation applied at the same time it is applied to the remuneration of the GMCA Elected Mayor and Co-opted Members. (vi) The Panel further recommends that the recommended SRAs for Members and Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee are backdated to 24 June 2022 or any date thereafter that the GMCA deems is appropriate.
Financial Implications: (Authorised by the Borough Treasurer)	The financial implications will depend on the value and timing of any local government pay award, and the take-up of members and will be met by the GMCA not Tameside Council.
Legal Implications: (Authorised by Borough Solicitor)	Compliance with the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 which provides Local Authorities with discretion to adopt remuneration schemes reflecting local circumstances providing for clear and transparent accountability, because it is necessary for the Council when exercising this

discretion to have regard to the recommendation of the Independent Remuneration Panel.

Access to Information:

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting Robert Landon, Head of Democratic Services by:



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1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Greater Manchester Combined Authority Order 2011, as amended by the GMCA (Amendment) Order 2015 and the GMCA (Functions and Amendment) Order 2017 provides for the appointment of a GMCA Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP). At their meeting on 24 February 2017 the GMCA agreed to establish in accordance with relevant statutory provisions, its own Independent Remuneration Panel.
- 1.2 Following consideration of the Independent Review of the GMCA Scrutiny function undertaken by the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny at their meeting on the 24 June 2022, the GMCA agreed to re-convene the IRP to consider a special responsibility allowance for members and substitutes of the GMCA Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

2. INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PROCESS

- 2.1 The Membership of the Greater Manchester Independent Remuneration Panel consisted of:
 - Dr Declan Hall –Independent Chair
 - Clive Memmott – Chamber of Commerce
 - Vicky Knight – UNISON Northwest
- 2.2 The Panel met in July 2022 to begin the process of reviewing the remuneration for the Members of the GMCA Overview & Scrutiny Committee. Their final report was completed in November 2022 but was not considered immediately by the GMCA as it was anticipated that the reference to the payment of allowances to Scrutiny, Audit and PCP Committee members within the Levelling Up White Paper was imminently to become law.
- 2.3 The Panel formally convened to conduct the review and it interviewed members of Scrutiny, members the GMCA and relevant officers. In addition, all Scrutiny members were sent a short questionnaire for those who were unable to meet with the Panel were given the opportunity to make a written submission.

3. REMUNERATION PANEL RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The recommendations of the GMCA's Independent Remuneration Panel are –
 - (vii) The IRP recommends that the Members of the GMCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee are paid an annual SRA of £3,228.
 - (viii) The IRP recommends that the Substitute Members of the GMCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee are paid an SRA consisting of two components:
 - A Standing SRA of £536 per year
 - A Variable SRA of £134.52 for every meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and task and finish group attended
 - (ix) The IRP recommends that the SRA for the Chair of the GMCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee should be £9,684.
 - (x) The IRP recommends that if the GMCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee appoint a Vice Chair then that post holder should receive an SRA of £4,035.
 - (xi) The IRP recommends that the SRAs recommended for the Members, Substitutes, Chair and if so appointed a Vice Chair of the GMCA Overview and Scrutiny Committee are also annually indexed in accordance with the annual percentage cost of living increase that is applied each year as set by the National Joint Council for Local Government Staff, with the indexation applied at the same time it is applied to the remuneration of the GMCA Elected Mayor and Co-opted Members.

- (xii) The Panel further recommends that the recommended SRAs for Members and Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee are backdated to 24 June 2022 or any date thereafter than the GMCA deems is appropriate.