

Council Report

Council 16th September 2015

Title

Review of Special Responsibility Allowance Status

Is this a Key Decision and has it been included on the Forward Plan?

No

Director Approving Submission of the Report

Interim Assistant Director Legal & Democratic Services

Ward(s) Affected

All

Executive Summary

To inform Members of the decision of the Commissioners to pay a proportion of Special Responsibility Allowance (SRA) to certain office holders.

Recommendations

- (1) That the decision of the Commissioners in May 2015 to pay fifty percent of the SRA in respect of the Leader, Deputy Leader and Advisory Cabinet members be noted.
- (2) That the decision of the Commissioners in relation to the Chair and Vice Chair of Licensing Board, to take effect from 1st September 2015, be noted.

List of Appendices Included

None

Background Papers

1. Directions of Secretary of State 26/2/2015
2. Members remuneration scheme 2015

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel

Not applicable

Council Approval Required

No

Exempt from the Press and Public – No

Title (Main Report)

Review of Special Responsibility Allowances Status

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 That the decision of the Commissioners in May 2015 to pay fifty percent of the SRA in respect of the Leader, Deputy Leader and Advisory Cabinet members be noted.
- 1.2 That the decision of the Commissioners in relation to the Chair and Vice Chair of Licensing Board, to take effect from 1st September 2015, be noted.

2. Background

- 2.1 As part of the Directions to the Council on 26th February 2015 the Secretary of State announced that the authority was required to cease to pay the special responsibility allowances (SRA) to members of its executive whilst they have no functions to exercise.
- 2.2 The Commissioners were appointed in February 2015 and agreed following the local elections in May 2015 that fifty percent of the SRA would begin to be paid to the Leader, Deputy Leader and Advisory Cabinet Members.
- 2.3 Following a review of the SRAs for the Chair and Vice Chair of Licensing board Commissioner Ney has recommended that these members also be awarded fifty per cent of the SRA applicable to the position.
- 2.4 The decision is based on the contribution made by the members in relation to the serious issues surrounding the licensing function of the authority.

3. Key Issues

- 3.1 To note the Commissioners' decision regarding the reinstatement of a proportion of the Special responsibility allowance to certain office holders.

4. Options considered and recommended proposal

- 4.1 To pay fifty percent of the SRA to the Leader, Deputy Leader and Advisory Cabinet members from May 2015 and in relation to the Chair and Vice Chair of Licensing Board to pay fifty percent of the allowance from 1st September 2015.

5. Consultation

- 5.1 This is a Commissioner decision in accordance with the Directions of the Secretary of State.

6. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

- 6.1 The payments of the SRA for the Leader, Deputy Leader and Advisory Cabinet members commenced in May 2015.
- 6.2 The payments for the Chair and Vice Chair of Licensing Board will commence with effect from 1st September 2015.

7. Financial and Procurement Implications

- 7.1 The Commissioners were appointed in February 2015 and agreed following the local elections in May 2015 that fifty percent of the SRA would begin to be paid to the Leader, Deputy Leader and Advisory Cabinet Members.
- 7.2 Following a review of the SRAs for the Chair and Vice Chair of Licensing board Commissioner Ney has recommended that these members also be awarded fifty per cent of the SRA applicable to the position.
- 7.3 The decision re the Chair / Vice Chair is based on the contribution made by the members in relation to the serious issues surrounding the licensing function of the authority.

8. Legal Implications

- 8.1 As part of the Directions to the Council on 26th February 2015 the Secretary of State announced that the authority was required to cease to pay the special responsibility allowances (SRA) to members of its executive whilst they have no functions to exercise.
- 8.2 In accordance with the Directions, the Commissioners have agreed to reinstate the allowances in certain instances as detailed in paragraph 2.

9. Human Resources Implications

- 9.1 None

10. Implications for Children and Young People

- 10.1 None

11. Equalities and Human Rights Implications

11.1 None

12. Implications for Partners and Other Directorates

12.1 None

13. Risks and Mitigation

13.1 None

14. Accountable Officer(s)

Interim Assistant Director Legal and Democratic Services

Report author(s):

Angela Harwood, Legal Adviser, Legal and Democratic Services

Directorate: Resources and Transformation

Tel contact: 01709 254466 or email: angela.harwood@rotherham.gov.uk

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