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**REPORT TO:** COUNCIL

**DATE:** 7 MARCH 2013

**REPORT OF THE:** COUNCIL SOLICITOR  
ANTHONY WINSHIP

**TITLE OF REPORT:** APPOINTMENT OF AN INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION  
PANEL

**WARDS AFFECTED:** ALL

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

### **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 To recommend to Council the appointment of an Independent Remuneration Panel to make recommendations about the allowances to be paid to Councillors .

### **2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

2.1 It is recommended that Council approves:

- (i) that an Independent Remuneration Panel be established in accordance with the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003;
- (ii) that Ms Gill Baker, Mr John Richardson and Mr Colin Langley be appointed to serve on the Independent Remuneration Panel;
- (iii) the Term of Office for Members of the Panel be until 8 March 2018;
- (iv) that an allowance of £20 be payable for each meeting; and
- (v) the Constitution be updated accordingly.

### **3.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

3.1 To comply with the requirements of the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 .

### **4.0 SIGNIFICANT RISKS**

4.1 There are no significant risks associated with the appointment of the Independent Remuneration Panel.

## **5.0 POLICY CONTEXT AND CONSULTATION**

- 5.1 Appointing an independent remuneration panel and determining a scheme of allowances is not directly relevant to the corporate policies or priorities of the Council. However it is considered that since Parliament requires local authorities to have a Members Allowance Scheme it is important that the scheme is updated and reviewed when required.
- 5.2 No consultation has been undertaken on this report.

## **REPORT**

### **6.0 BACKGROUND AND INTRODUCTION**

- 6.1 Regulation 20 of The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 (as amended) requires the District Council to establish an Independent Remuneration Panel to make recommendations to the Council about allowances payable to Members of Ryedale District Council .
- 6.2 The panel shall not include any member who is also a member of an authority in respect of which it makes recommendations or is a member of a committee or sub-committee of such an authority.
- 6.3 On 12 July 2012 Council appointed Ms Gill Baker and Mr Colin Langley as Independent Persons for the purposes of the Localism Act 2011. It is considered that these persons are suitable for membership of the Independent Remuneration Panel. Mr John Richardson has been a Member and Chairman of the Independent Remuneration Panel since the inception of the panel in 2001.
- 6.4 As the Scheme for Members Allowances needs to be reviewed it is necessary to request the Independent Remuneration Panel to review the whole Scheme of Members Allowances.
- 6.5 Council has also previously requested that the allowances for the Chairman and Vice Chairman of Council be considered by the Panel.

### **7.0 IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 The following implications have been identified:
- a) Financial  
There are no material financial implications of appointing an Independent Remuneration Panel
  - b) Legal  
None
  - c) Other (Equalities, Staffing, Planning, Health & Safety, Environmental, Crime & Disorder  
None

### **8.0 NEXT STEPS**

- 8.1 The Independent Remuneration Panel will meet to undertake its work.
- 8.2 It will be necessary to undertake research of neighbouring and other local authorities

Members Allowances' Schemes as a standard of comparison to help the Independent Remuneration Panel make informed decisions about the level of Members Allowances

- 8.3 Research will also be needed on the arrangements for Chairmans and Vice-Chairmans allowances at neighbouring and other local authorities.

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**Background Papers:**  
None.