

# DEMOCRATIC SERVICES COMMITTEE

## 19<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2020

### INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL FOR WALES (IRPW) ANNUAL REPORT (FEBRUARY, 2020)

#### RECOMMENDATIONS / KEY DECISIONS REQUIRED:

The Democratic Services Committee is asked to note the determinations by the IRPW for 2020/21, as detailed within the report.

#### REASONS:

The Local Authorities (Allowances for Members) (Wales) Regulations 2007 provided for the establishment of the Independent Remuneration IRPW for Wales (IRPW) to review councillors' allowances in Wales. The IRPW was established in January 2008 to prescribe the maximum levels of allowances payable by County and County Borough Councils in Wales. Following the approval of The Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 the IRPW's remit has been extended to National Parks and Fire and Rescue Authorities and Town and Community Councils in Wales and the IRPW can also now prescribe the levels of allowances / salaries to be paid rather than recommend the maximum levels of allowances that could be paid.

Council at its meeting held on the 17<sup>th</sup> April 2013 agreed that the Committee be consulted on the implementation of reports issued by the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales in respect of members allowances etc.

<b>Scrutiny Committee consulted</b>	<b>Not applicable</b>
<b>Exec Board Decision Required</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>Council Decision Required</b>	<b>YES</b>

Executive Board Member Portfolio Holder(s): Councillors Emlyn Dole (Leader) & David Jenkins (Resources)

<b>Directorate</b>  <b>Name of Head of Service:</b> Linda Rees Jones  <b>Report Author:</b> Gaynor Morgan	<b>Chief Executive's</b>  <b>Designations:</b> Head of Administration & Law  Head of Democratic Services	<b>Tel Nos.</b> 01267 224012 LRJ 01267 224026 GM  <b>E Mail Addresses:</b> <a href="mailto:Lrjones@cararthenshire.gov.uk">Lrjones@cararthenshire.gov.uk</a> <a href="mailto:gmorgan@cararthenshire.gov.uk">gmorgan@cararthenshire.gov.uk</a>
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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**  
**DEMOCRATIC SERVICES COMMITTEE**  
**19<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2020**

**INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL FOR WALES (IRPW) ANNUAL  
REPORT (FEBRUARY, 2020)**

The IRPW published its Annual Report in February 2020 and confirmed that there were currently no options relating to levels of remuneration by principal councils that require a decision by full council. The IRPW determinations will be included within the Councillors' and Co-opted Members' Salaries and Allowances Scheme for 2020/21, which will be considered at the Annual Meeting of Council on the 20<sup>th</sup> May 2020.

The main determinations/changes made by the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales for 2020/21, are as follows (salaries payable from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020) : -

- an increase in basic salary for elected members of principal local authorities to £14,218 (an increase of £350 or 2.5%)
- no changes are proposed to Band 1 and Band 2 senior salaries payable to the Leader, Deputy Leader and Executive Members or Band 3, 4 and 5 Senior Salaries (apart from the increase in basic salary of 2.5%);
- no changes to Civic salaries (apart from the increase in basic salary of 2.5 %)
- there is no longer a need to determine a cap for Co-opted Members' Fees, alternatively the number of days in any one year for which co-opted members may be paid will reflect the work programme of the relevant committee.
- In respect of the reimbursement of the costs of care, the IRPW has for 2020/21 decided that relevant authorities should only publish the total amount reimbursed during the year, thus removing the two publication options previously provided.

A full copy of the IRPW's Annual Report (February, 2020) can be viewed on the IRPW's website :

<https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2020-02/annual-report-2020-to-2021.pdf>

**DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?**

**NO**

# IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :

Signed: Linda Rees Jones, Head of Administration & Law

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
YES	YES	YES	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

## Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities

The existing Members' Allowances Scheme which is contained within the Council's Constitution will need to be amended to reflect the determinations made by the IRPW to the current level of allowances.

## Finance

Any increases within Basic, Senior Salaries, Civic Salaries or Co-opted Members' fees and allowances to be paid, would need to be reflected within the Democratic Budget.

## Legal

The Council's Constitution requires the Council to adopt a Scheme for Members Allowances, the Scheme must meet the requirements imposed by the Independent Remuneration IRPW for Wales.

Part 8 (sections 141 to 160) and schedules 2 and 3 of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 set out the arrangements for the payments and pensions for members of relevant authorities and the functions and responsibilities of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales.

## CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: Linda Rees Jones, Head of Administration & Law

1. **Scrutiny Committee** Not applicable

2. **Local Member(s)** Not applicable

3. **Community / Town Council** Not applicable

4. **Relevant Partners** Not applicable

5. **Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations** Not applicable

**Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information**  
**List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:**

**THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW:**

<b>Title of Document</b>	<b>File Ref No.</b>	<b>Locations that the papers are available for public inspection</b>
Independent Remuneration IRPW for Wales - Annual Report (February 2019)	AD030-001	The Independent Remuneration IRPW for Wales website: Cymraeg:-  <a href="https://llyw.cymru/sites/default/files/publications/2020-02/adroddiad-blynyddol-2020-i-2021.pdf">https://llyw.cymru/sites/default/files/publications/2020-02/adroddiad-blynyddol-2020-i-2021.pdf</a> English:-  <a href="https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2020-02/annual-report-2020-to-2021.pdf">https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2020-02/annual-report-2020-to-2021.pdf</a>