# **DEMOCRATIC SERVICES COMMITTEE**

# 30<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2020

# INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL FOR WALES DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT - FEBRUARY 2021

#### Recommendations / key decisions required:

- 1. To consider and comment on the determinations made by the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales in their draft Annual Report for February 2021
- 2. To authorise the Chair of the Committee to submit a response to the IRPW on behalf of the Committee.

#### Reasons:

The Democratic Services Committee is consulted, in accordance with its Terms of Reference, on the implementation of reports issued by the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales.

Scrutiny committee consulted Not Applicable

Exec Board Decision Required NO

Council Decision Required NO

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:** Cllr Emlyn Dole – Leader/Cllr David Jenkins – Executive Board Member for Resources

Directorate Tel Nos. 01267 224010

Name of Head of Service: Designations: E Mail Addresses:

Linda Rees Jones Head of Administration & Law GMorgan@carmarthenshire

Report Author: .gov.uk

Gaynor Morgan Head of Democratic Services



## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

## DEMOCRATIC SERVICES COMMITTEE

## **30<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2020**

# INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL FOR WALES DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT - FEBRUARY 2021

Each year the Independent Remuneration for Wales (IRPW) determines the rates of payment which are made to elected and co-opted Members of Welsh Local Authorities for the following year and has powers to make recommendations on proposed variations to the remuneration of Chief Executives and Chief Officers of Principal Councils in Wales.

The IRPW is required to send the draft annual report to County Councils and comments are invited by the 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2020. As Carmarthenshire's Democratic Services Committee meeting was scheduled for 30<sup>th</sup> November the IRPW secretariat has agreed that any observations can be forwarded following the conclusion of the meeting.

The IRPW is required to take into account the representations which it receives on the draft before issuing its final version of the report in February.

In respect of Principal Councils, for 2021/22 the IRPW has determined the following changes:

- an increase in Basic Salaries of £150, bringing the basic salary for Councillors up to £14,368 (No additional increase will be paid to Senior and Civic Salary holders, they will only receive the basic salary element increase)
- the Panel has made a significant change to the Reimbursement of Costs of Care determination. It sees the removal of the £403 monthly cap and allows a Councillor and/or Co-opted Member to seek their full costs of care to be reimbursed fully for formal carers and up to a maximum rate equivalent to the real Living Wage for informal carers. This determination will place an additional financial burden on the Council; however, given the historic numbers of claimants, it is envisaged that this will be managed within the existing democratic budget.

This salary determined by the IRPW is required to be paid by each Principal Authority in Wales from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 and to each of its elected members unless any individual member opts personally and in writing to receive a lower amount.

DETAILED REPORT	Appendix 1 – New and updated determinations (Annex 5 to the main report)
ATTACHED ?	Appendix 2 – Draft Determinations for 2021-22 (Annex 1 to the main report)
YES	Appendix 3 – Copy of the full IRPW draft report for February 2020



## **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 and Law
Gaynor Morgan Head of Democratic Services

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

#### 1. Legal

The Democratic Services Committee is consulted, in accordance with its Terms of Reference, on the implementation of reports issued by the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales.

This is the thirteenth Annual Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales (the Panel), and the tenth published under the requirements of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 (as amended).

When the Panel's Annual Report is issued, Principal Councils must comply with the statutory requirements and apply all the relevant determinations. The proper officer of the Council must put in place mechanisms for all eligible council members to receive payments as determined by the Panel. There are currently no options relating to levels of remuneration by principal councils that require a decision by full council. Levels of payments to which members are entitled cannot be varied by a vote of a Principal Council.

#### 2. Finance

The IRPW draft determinations for 2021/22 will result in an additional budget requirement of £11,100. This will be validated when setting the budget for the forthcoming year.

#### CONSULTATIONS

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

Linda Rees Jones

Gaynor Morgan

Head of Democratic Services

#### 1. Scrutiny Committee

Not Applicable

#### 2.Local Member(s)

Not Applicable

#### 3. Community / Town Council

The draft report has been circulated by the IRPW to all Fire and Rescue Authorities, National Park Authorities and Town & Community Councils, for their observations.

#### **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 of the preparation this report:

# THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW:-

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
IRPW Draft Report		https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2020- 09/independent-remuneration-panel-draft-annual-report- 2021-2022.pdf
Local Government Wales Measure		http://www.legislation.gov.uk/mwa/2011/4/contents/enacted