

DEMOCRATIC SERVICES COMMITTEE

30TH 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:
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Report Author:		
Gaynor Morgan	Head of Democratic Services	

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

DEMOCRATIC SERVICES COMMITTEE

30TH 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 23rd November 2020. As Carmarthenshire's Democratic Services Committee meeting was scheduled for 30th 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 1st 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 ATTACHED ?	Appendix 1 – New and updated determinations (Annex 5 to the main report)
YES	Appendix 2 – Draft Determinations for 2021-22 (Annex 1 to the main report)
	Appendix 3 – Copy of the full IRPW draft report for February 2020

**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