

## **CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL**

<b>Report to:</b>	<b>Democratic Services Committee</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup> March 2023</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Members' Schedule of Remuneration 2023/24</b>
<b>Purpose of report:</b>	<b>To consider the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales' Annual Report 2023 and the draft Members' Schedule of Remuneration 2023/24.</b>

### **Background**

The Council is required to produce its Members' Schedule of Remuneration on an annual basis in order to exercise of the powers conferred by the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 (the Measure) and as amended by Sections 62 to 67 of the Local Government (Democracy) (Wales) Act 2013; Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales (IRPW) Regulations. In addition, the Schedule must meet the requirements of the Independent Remuneration Panel's Annual Report.

### **Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales (IRPW) Annual Report 2023 to 2024**

The IRPW published its 2023 Annual Report in February (see Appendix B). The format of the report this year is different to previous years, where it refers only to any determinations made by the IRPW in 2023; the 2022 determinations should be applied for 2023.

The determinations relevant to County Councils relate only to the basic level of salary for elected members from £16,800 to £17,600; and the increase to senior salaries.

When the IRPW's Annual Report is issued, principal councils must comply with the statutory requirements and apply all the relevant determinations. There are currently no options relating to levels of remuneration by principal councils that require a decision by Council. Levels of payments to which Members are entitled cannot be varied by a vote of a principal council.

Only an individual Member may communicate in writing to the Proper Officer (Corporate Lead Officer: Democratic Services) if, as an individual, they wish to decline all or part of the payment to which they are entitled.

### **Members Schedule of Remuneration 2023/24**

The IRPW Annual Report 2023 and the Members' Schedule of Remuneration 2023/24 will be presented to Council on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2023. There are no proposed changes to the Members' Schedule of Remuneration other than reflecting the changes to salaries.

The Council will also be asked to consider approve continuing the following practices:

- Not making payments for travelling expenses whilst undertaking constituency duties;
- To approve the travelling subsistence, overnight accommodation and car parking allowances at the same rate as 2022/23;

- To continue to offer the £10 monthly opt-in allowance to cover telephone, broadband and postage costs and for this payment to be reflected in the Statement of Payments made to Members;
- Co-opted Members be capped to a maximum equivalent of 10 full days for each committee to which an individual has been co-opted;
- To continue to publish the total amount reimbursed by the authority during the year but not attributed to any named Member in respect of the reimbursement of care.

**Recommendations:** **To consider the IRPW Annual Report 2023 and the draft Members' Schedule of Remuneration 2023/24 prior to presenting to Council on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2023.**

**Appendices:** Appendix A – Draft Members' Schedule of Remuneration 2023/24;

Appendix B – IRPW Annual Report 2023.

**Background documents:** Report to Council, 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023 – Budget for 2023/24;  
 IRPW Annual Report 2022;  
 Members' Schedule of Remuneration 2022/23;  
 Council Report, 8<sup>th</sup> June 2022;  
 Council Report, 20<sup>th</sup> May 2022;  
 Local Government and Elections Act 2021;  
 Report to Council 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2021 – Diversity in Democracy Declaration;  
 Candidates' Guide for prospective candidates in the Local Elections 2022;  
 Carbon Management Plan;  
 Medium Term Financial Strategy 2022/23 onwards;  
 Members' Allowances previous years.

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**Job Title:** Corporate Lead Officer: Democratic Services

**Date:** 01.03.2023