

CYNGOR SIR CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL

Report to: Cabinet

Date of meeting: 19th March 2024

Title: Revised Coroner Pay Arrangements for 2024/2025

Purpose of the report: Approve Coroner and Assistant Coroner Pay Arrangements

For: Decision

Cabinet Portfolio and Cabinet Member:

Councillor Matthew Vaux, Cabinet Member for Partnerships, Housing, Legal and Governance and Public Protection

Background:

On 4/7/23 following issue of JNC Circular 68, Cabinet agreed the following payrates:
[Ceredigion County Council Agenda for Cabinet on Tuesday, 4th July, 2023, 10.00 am](#)

Decision
Minute 39

That Cabinet approves the following Senior Coroner and Assistant Coroner pay rates for 2023/24 in accordance with JNC Circular 68:

1) Senior part-time Coroner:

- i) Retention Salary of £22,200 p/a to cover retention/out of hours service availability from 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024.
- ii) Using the agreed daily rate of £489 to pay the Coroner an annual salary of £12,225 (@25 days pa including training days from 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024.)
Total: £34,425 per annum (plus on-costs).

2) Assistant Coroner:

- full day: £417;
- half day: £209.

Current position:

- Senior part-time Coroner daily rates £489 - £555
- Assistant Coroner daily rates £417-503

Proposals:

It is now necessary to approve the pay rates for the Senior Part- time Coroner and Assistant coroner for 2024/2025.

The proposed pay rates are identical to those agreed by Cabinet on 4/7/23:

1) 2024/2025 (1/4/24-31/3/25):

Senior part-time Coroner:

- i) Retention Salary of £22,200 p/a to cover retention/out of hours service availability from 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025.
- ii) Using the daily rate of £489 to pay the Coroner an annual salary of £12,225 (@25 days pa including training days)

Total annual sum £34,425 per annum (plus on-costs).

Assistant Coroner:

- full day: £417
- half day: £209.

The JNC is currently consulting on revised pay scales.

Should the JNC release revised information/Circular regarding pay rates for the Coroner and Assistant Coroner for the period from the 1st of April 2024 to the 31st of March 2025, this will be taken into account and a further report will be presented to Cabinet.

Wellbeing of Future Generations:

Has an Integrated Impact Assessment been completed? If not, please state why.

No, this report does not represent a change in policy or strategy.

Summary of Integrated Impact Assessment:

Long term: N/A
Collaboration: N/A
Involvement: N/A
Prevention: N/A
Integration: N/A

Recommendation(s):

1) That Cabinet approves the pay rate for 2024-2025 (1/4/24-31/3/25) as follows:

Senior part-time Coroner:

- i) Retention Salary of £22,200 p/a to cover retention/out of hours service availability from 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025.
- ii) Using the daily rate of £489 to pay the Coroner an annual salary of £12,225 (@25 days pa including training days).

Total annual sum £34,425 per annum (plus on-costs).

iii) Office expenses/business support allowance – £5,000 p/a.

2) That Cabinet approves the pay rate for 2024-2025 for the Assistant Coroner:

- full day: £417
- half day: £209

Reasons for decision:

Compliance with relevant legislation and JNC Circulars, mitigation of challenge and safeguarding public funds.

Overview and Scrutiny:

None

Policy Framework:

N/A

Corporate Well-being Objectives:

Boosting the economy, supporting businesses and enabling employment (providing an efficient coroner service)

Finance and Procurement implications:

Continuation of current arrangements, potential for increased salary costs and budget implications relating to pay of Coroner and Assistant Coroner.

Legal Implications:

Compliance with relevant legislation

Staffing implications:

None - Coroner and Assistant Coroner are not classed as Council employees.

Property / asset implications:

None

Risk(s):

Risk of legal challenge by the Coroner & Assistant Coroner if recommendations not followed.

Statutory Powers:

Coroners & Justice Act 2009: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2009/>

The Coroners Allowances, Fees and Expenses Regulations 2013:

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2013/>

Background Papers:

JNC Circular 68 - [JNC 68 - 5.6.23](#)

Appendices:

None

Corporate Lead Officer:

Elin Prysor, Corporate Lead Officer: Legal & Governance (& Monitoring Officer)

Reporting Officer:

Elin Prysor, Corporate Lead Officer: Legal & Governance (& Monitoring Officer)

Date:

13 February 2024