

MEETING:	THE FULL COUNCIL
DATE:	02 May 2013
SUBJECT:	MEMBERS SALARIES
AWDUR:	Geraint George Head of Strategic and Improvement Department

1. Members salaries and expenses for 2012/13 and the following years are paid in accordance with the decision of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales. The panel published its report detailing the salaries in December 2012, with an update published in December 2012.

2. The Panel's decision came into force following the May elections 2012. The requirements were reviewed during 2012/13, but no amendments were noted for 2013/14, therefore they stand as follows::

Ordinary Councillor £13,175 (Basic Salary)
 Leader of the Council £47,500 (Senior Salary)
 Deputy Leader of the Council £33,460 (Senior Salary)
 Cabinet Member £28,780 (Senior Salary)
 Committee Chairman £21,910 (Senior Salary)
 Political Group Leader £16,920 (Senior Salary)
 Chairman of the Council £21,375 (Civic Salary)
 Vice-Chairman of the Council £16,625 (Civic Salary)

3. The Council does not have the right to change these sums. Individual members have the right to waive the whole or part of their salary should they so wish.

4. There are five categories of members eligible to receive senior salaries, namely: Leader of the Council, Deputy Leader of the Council, Member of the Cabinet, Committee Chairman, Leaders of a Political Group.

5. The number of senior salaries payable is limited to 18 in Gwynedd.

6. At its meeting on the 17th May, 2012 the Council decided to allocate the following senior senior salaries,
 Leader of the Council, and nine Cabinet members (to include the Deputy Leader),
 the Chairs of the three Scrutiny Committees,
 the Chairs of the Audit Committee, Planning Committee and the Licensing Committee
 bringing the number of senior salaries payable to a total of 16.

7. During the year, the full Council decided to allocate the remaining senior salaries for 2012/13 as follows:

Leader of the Largest Group outside the Cabinet (Council 06/12/12)
 Chair of the Employment Appeals Committee (Council 28/02/2013)

8. In accordance with the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales, the only adjustments for 2013/14 are as follows:

a) a Council must pay a senior salary to the Leader of the largest group outside the Cabinet, subject to at least 10% of the Council members being on the group. The Council had foreseen this requirement in December 2012 when allocating senior salaries, and therefore the Council already fulfills this requirement – see 7 above.

b) Individual authorities may decide on the maximum number of days for which co-opted members may be paid in any one year. The maximum allowed in 2012/13 was 10 days. It is recommended that Gwynedd Council remain with the maximum of 10 days in accordance with the 2012/13 guidance.

c) In accordance with the Panel's indication during 2011/12, elected members are entitled to join the Local Government Pension Scheme from 2013/14 onwards.

9. No further changes are required by the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales. Note that guidance on expenses claims are published on the Council's website.

10. RECOMMENDATION.

The Council is asked to :-

(a) Allocate the senior salaries in accordance with the decisions undertaken in 2012/13 for 2013/14, as follows :-

Council Leader

Deputy Leader

Cabinet Members

Chairs of the three scrutiny committees

Chair of Audit Committee

Chair of Planning Committee

Chair of Licensing Committee

Chair of Employment Appeals Committee

Leader of the Largest Group outside the Cabinet