

ANNUAL COUNCIL – 13 MAY 2009

MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

Question 1

Councillor N Clark to ask the Leader of the Council:

*In March 2008, Councillor Jackson told Council that a review of members' allowances "would be undertaken shortly." In February 2009, the Leader stated at Full Council that the Independent Remuneration Panel was scheduled to meet on 19th March 2009. After that Council meeting it became apparent that there weren't enough members on the Panel to meet the statutory requirements and no firm meeting date had been set. On 25th March 2009 a paper to appoint new members to the IRP was withdrawn at the last minute. People are fed up of delays and excuses from politicians trying to maintain their generous allowances from the public purse. Can the Leader give Council and, more importantly, residents a firm deadline for addressing members' allowances?*

Question 2

Councillor D Clark to ask the Leader of the Council:

*At the Constitution-Member/Officer Protocols Working Group (which comprised two Conservative members and one Liberal Democrat, with officer support) serious consideration was given to a proposal that, with the exception of the Leader of the largest opposition group, members should be limited to asking only one question at Council. Having had the benefit of notice, allowing him time to make enquiries, can the Leader tell Council whether this proposal was first suggested by an officer or a member?*