

Public Document Pack

EAST HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a meeting of East Hertfordshire District Council will be held in the Council Chamber, Wallfields, Hertford on Wednesday 20th February, 2013 at 7.00 pm, for the purpose of transacting the business set out in the Agenda below, and you are hereby summoned to attend.

Dated this 8th day of February 2013

Jeff Hughes
Head of Democratic and
Legal Support Services

Note: Prayers will be said before the meeting commences. Those Members who do not wish to participate will be invited to enter the Chamber at their conclusion.

AGENDA

1. Chairman's Announcements

To receive any announcements.

2. Minutes (Pages 7 - 12)

To approve as a correct record and authorise the Chairman to sign the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 30 January 2013.

3. Declarations of Interest

To receive any Members' declarations of interest.

4. Petitions

To receive any petitions.

5. Public Questions

To receive any public questions.

6. Members' questions

To receive any Members' questions.

7. Executive Report - 5 February 2013

To receive a report (to follow) from the Leader of the Council and to consider recommendations on the matters below:

(A) Treasury Management Statement and Annual Investment Strategy

(B) Capital Programme 2012/13 (revised) - 2015/16

(C) Fees and Charges 2013/14

(D) Service Estimates - Probable Outturn for 2012/13, Revenue Budget 2013/14

(E) Consolidated Budget Report and 2013/14 – 2016/17 Medium Term Financial Strategy

Note – Members are asked to bring their copy of the Executive agenda to the meeting.

8. Development Control Committee: Minutes - 6 February 2013

*Chairman: Councillor S Rutland-Barsby
(to follow)*

9. Joint Meeting of Scrutiny Committees: Minutes - 12 February 2013

(to follow)

10. Members Allowances 2013/14 (Pages 13 - 28)

To receive a report of the Head of Democratic and Legal Support Services.

11. Motions on Notice

To receive Motions on Notice.

DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

1. A Member, present at a meeting of the Authority, or any committee, sub-committee, joint committee or joint sub-committee of the Authority, with a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI) in any matter to be considered or being considered at a meeting:
 - must not participate in any discussion of the matter at the meeting;
 - must not participate in any vote taken on the matter at the meeting;
 - must disclose the interest to the meeting, whether registered or not, subject to the provisions of section 32 of the Localism Act 2011;
 - if the interest is not registered and is not the subject of a pending notification, must notify the Monitoring Officer of the interest within 28 days;
 - must leave the room while any discussion or voting takes place.

2. A DPI is an interest of a Member or their partner (which means spouse or civil partner, a person with whom they are living as husband or wife, or a person with whom they are living as if they were civil partners) within the descriptions as defined in the Localism Act 2011.

3. The Authority may grant a Member dispensation, but only in limited circumstances, to enable him/her to participate and vote on a matter in which they have a DPI.

4. It is a criminal offence to:

- fail to disclose a disclosable pecuniary interest at a meeting if it is not on the register;
- fail to notify the Monitoring Officer, within 28 days, of a DPI that is not on the register that a Member disclosed to a meeting;
- participate in any discussion or vote on a matter in which a Member has a DPI;
- knowingly or recklessly provide information that is false or misleading in notifying the Monitoring Officer of a DPI or in disclosing such interest to a meeting.

(Note: The criminal penalties available to a court are to impose a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale and disqualification from being a councillor for up to 5 years.)

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MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL
CHAMBER, WALLFIELDS, HERTFORD ON
WEDNESDAY 30 JANUARY 2013, AT 7.00
PM

PRESENT:

Councillor J Taylor (Chairman).
Councillors D Abbott, M Alexander,
D Andrews, W Ashley, P Ballam,
R Beeching, E Buckmaster, S Bull, A Burlton,
M Carver, Mrs R Cheswright, A Dearman,
J Demonti, T Herbert, Mrs D Hone,
A Jackson, G Jones, G Lawrence, J Mayes,
G McAndrew, M McMullen, P Moore,
M Newman, P Phillips, M Pope, J Ranger,
S Rutland-Barsby, N Symonds, M Tindale,
A Warman, G Williamson, N Wilson, J Wing,
M Wood, C Woodward, B Wrangles and
J Wyllie.

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Simon Drinkwater	- Director of Neighbourhood Services
Jeff Hughes	- Head of Democratic and Legal Support Services
Martin Ibrahim	- Democratic Services Team Leader
George A Robertson	- Chief Executive and Director of Customer and Community Services
Adele Taylor	- Director of Finance and Support Services

559 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman welcomed the press and public to the meeting and reminded everyone that the meeting was being webcast.

She referred to the recent events she had attended and highlighted the Christmas carol service. She reminded Members of a forthcoming charity event on 17 February 2013, at the Ancient Raj, Sawbridgeworth.

Finally, she advised that Councillor A Warman would be representing the Council at the Royal Garden Party.

560 MINUTES

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the meeting held on 12 December 2012, be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

561 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor D Andrews asked Council to note the declaration made at the Development Control Committee meeting held on 9 January 2013 in respect of Minute 529 – Application 3/12/1040/OP.

562 EXECUTIVE REPORT - 8 JANUARY 2013

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Executive meeting held on 8 January 2013, be received.

(see also Minutes 563 – 565)

563 HOUSING STRATEGIC TENANCY STRATEGY 2012 - 15

RESOLVED – that (A) the comments of the Community Scrutiny Committee be received: and

(B) the Tenancy Strategy as now submitted, be adopted.

564 LOCAL AUTHORITY MORTGAGE SCHEME

In response to comments made by Councillor M Wood, the Leader stated that improving publicity for the scheme would be discussed with Lloyds Bank. The Executive Member for Finance referred to the role of all Members in raising awareness with residents.

RESOLVED – that (A) the Council's Local Authority Mortgage Scheme, approved at its meeting held on 22 February 2012, be amended as follows:

The maximum loan amount that can be awarded per property be increased from £160,000 to £190,000.

(B) the Monitoring Officer be further indemnified in giving an Opinion Letter in respect of the amendment in (A) above confirming that the Council is able to enter into the Deed of Amendment and is bound by it.

565 COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION SCHEME

Councillors J Wing and M Wood expressed their opposition to the proposed scheme on the basis that they did not believe that the more vulnerable sections of society should be shouldering the extra burden. They indicated that they would not be supporting the proposals.

The Leader reminded Members that the new council tax benefits regime had been implemented by the Coalition Government. He believed the proposed scheme in East Herts was fair and proportionate.

After being put to the meeting, and a vote taken, the proposals were CARRIED.

RESOLVED – that (A) the forecasted financial implications arising from the recommended scheme for the Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTS), with effect from 1 April 2013 and the risks and assumptions attached to these, be approved; and

(B) the CTS Scheme as now detailed in the report submitted, be approved.

566 DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE: MINUTES - 9
JANUARY 2013

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Development Control Committee meeting held on 9 January 2013, be received.

567 JOINT MEETING OF SCRUTINY COMMITTEES: MINUTES -
15 JANUARY 2013

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the joint meeting of Scrutiny Committees held on 15 January 2013, be received.

568 HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE: MINUTES - 16
JANUARY 2013

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Human Resources Committee meeting held on 16 January 2013, be received.

(see also Minute 569)

569 PAY POLICY STATEMENT

RESOLVED – that the Pay Policy Statement 2013/14, as now amended be approved.

570 AUDIT COMMITTEE: MINUTES - 23 JANUARY 2013

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Audit Committee meeting held on 23 January 2013, be received.

(see also Minute 571)

571 RESPONSE TO AUDITOR'S RECOMMENDATIONS
RELATING TO AN OBJECTION TO 2011-2012 ACCOUNTS

RESOLVED – that (A) the report be received: and

(B) the proposed response to the external auditor's recommendations, as now submitted, be approved.

572 CALCULATION OF COUNCIL TAX BASE 2013/14

The Executive Member for Finance submitted a report recommending the calculation of the council tax base for the whole District and for each parish and town council for 2013/14.

Council approved the recommendations as now detailed.

RESOLVED – that (A) the calculation of the Council's tax base for the whole District, and for the parish areas, for 2013/14, as now detailed, be approved;

(B) pursuant to the report and in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Tax Base) Regulations 2012, the amount calculated by East Hertfordshire District Council as its council tax base for the whole area for 2013/14 shall be 55084 and for the parish areas for 2013/14 as listed in the report submitted.

573 NATIONAL NON-DOMESTIC RATES (NNDR)
CALCULATION

The Executive Member for Finance submitted a report recommending the calculation of the National Non Domestic Rates Budget 2013/14.

Council approved the calculation as now detailed.

RESOLVED – that in accordance with the Non-Domestic Rating (Rates Retention) Regulations 2013

(due to gain parliamentary approval by mid February 2013), the amount calculated by East Herts Council for the year 2013/14 shall be £42,975,193 (net yield after transitional arrangements and rate retention).

574 THE STANDARDS COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

The Monitoring Officer submitted a report outlining progress on implementing the new standards regime, which also proposed changes to the complaints procedure.

In response to a question from Councillor M Wood, the Monitoring Officer stated that updates to guidance on the code of conduct would be included within the annual review of the Constitution.

Councillor M Wood referred to recent complaints dealt with by the Standards Sub-Committee and the length of time taken for the cases to be heard. He believed that the complaints procedure should include some time limits for investigations to be carried out and reported back.

The Monitoring Officer suggested that the recent history had been complicated by the transition from the old regime to the new and believed that the new process would reduce the length of time taken.

Councillor E Buckmaster moved, and Councillor M Wood seconded, a proposal that the complaints process include a best endeavours timeframe of three months for investigations to be reported back to Members. After being put to the meeting, and a vote taken, this proposal was CARRIED.

Council approved the complaints procedure, as now amended.

RESOLVED – that the complaints procedure, as now amended, be approved.

The meeting closed at 7.31 pm

EAST HERTS COUNCIL

COUNCIL – 20 FEBRUARY 2013

REPORT BY HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC AND LEGAL SUPPORT SERVICES

MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES 2013/14

WARD(S) AFFECTED: All

Purpose/Summary of Report

- To report the recommendations of the Council's Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) following its review of Members' Allowances.

<u>RECOMMENDATION:</u> that (A) Members' Allowances for 2013/14 be, and

(B) the size of the Independent Remuneration Panel be decreased from 8 to 7 members (with the existing appointees).

1.0 Background

1.1 The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 requires each principal local authority to establish an Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) to submit recommendations on its Members' Allowances.

1.2 Council established its current IRP at its meeting held on 8 December 2010. It determined that the size of the Panel should be 9 members and appointed the following individuals:

Mrs N Burdett, Mr P Boylan, Mr B C Engel, Mr D Filer, Mr C Harris, Miss C Lofthouse, Mr D McNeill, Mrs S Newton and Mr J Pool.

1.3 Mr D McNeil resigned from the Panel on 5 October 2011. Council agreed to reduce the size of the Panel from 9 to 8 Members at its February 2012 meeting. Subsequently, another Panel Member (Mr C Harris) died before the Panel commenced its deliberations

earlier this civic year.

1.4 Council is invited to consider whether or not to fill the vacancy on the IRP caused by Mr Harris' death. Regulations prescribe that an IRP shall consist of at least three members. Council could therefore determine that the size of the Panel now be seven members (with the existing appointees). This (latter) option is recommended.

2.0 Report

2.1 Before a local Authority makes or amends its Members' Allowances Scheme it shall have regard to the recommendations made by its IRP.

2.2 The Council's IRP's report and recommendations on Members' Allowances for 2013/14 can be found at **Essential Reference Paper 'B'**.

2.3 Council is invited to consider the IRP's recommendations before determining a Members' Allowances scheme for 2013/14.

3.0 Implications/Consultations

3.1 Information on any corporate issues and consultation associated with this report can be found within **Essential Reference Paper 'A'**.

Background Papers

None

Contact Officer: Jeff Hughes – Head of Democratic and Legal Support Services – ext 2170
jeff.hughes@eastherts.gov.uk

Report Author: Jeff Hughes – Head of Democratic and Legal Support Services – ext 2170
jeff.hughes@eastherts.gov.uk

ESSENTIAL REFERENCE PAPER 'A'

Contribution to the Council's Corporate Priorities/ Objectives for 2013/14:	People <i>Deliver strong and relevant services</i> Prosperity <i>Deliver Value for money</i>
Consultation:	None.
Legal:	The Authority is required, before the beginning of each year, to make a scheme for the payment of specified allowances. Before making a scheme, the Authority shall have regard to the recommendations made to it by its IRP.
Financial:	The increases in mileage allowances for journeys of over 50 miles, and increases in SRA allowances from £240 to £270 pa would be contained within the overall provision for allowances and expenses in the 2013/14 budget.
Human Resource:	None
Risk Management:	See legal implications above.

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INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL REPORT TO EAST HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL – FEBRUARY 2013

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES FOR 2013/14

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The Council's Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP), established under the provisions of the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003, has undertaken a review of the Members' Allowances Scheme.
- 1.2 The regulations require that: "*Before an authority...makes or amends a scheme, the authority shall have regard to the recommendations made in relation to it by an independent remuneration panel*".
- 1.3 This report has been prepared in accordance with those regulations to enable the Authority to meet its statutory responsibilities when reviewing or amending its Scheme of Allowances for 2013/14.
- 1.4 The scope of the review was to determine what changes, if any, needed to be made to the current Members' Allowances scheme.
- 1.5 Following the May 2011 elections, the political composition of the Council is 46 Conservatives, 2 Liberal Democrats and 2 Independents.
- 1.6 The political structure and the roles of members was unchanged since the last review with the exception that:
- the vacancy on the Executive has been filled, re-establishing the composition of the Executive as Leader of the Council, deputy leader and four Executive Members;
 - the Highways joint Member Panel ceased to exist on 30 September 2012 following the reorganisation of Highways by Hertfordshire county Council;
 - there is a revised Standards Committee which eliminates the further payment of co-optee Special Responsibility Allowances (SRAs) to the Chairman and members; and
 - there is a new Council Tax Setting Committee, but payment of an SRA to the Chairman is not currently considered appropriate.
- 1.7 The IRP met on 27 September and 6 November 2012 to conduct its review.

1.8 The following evidence was considered:

- (a) Individual submissions from the single Member who responded to the invitation for written submissions concerning the views on Members' Allowances that may apply for 2013/14.
- (b) A summary of allowances paid to EHC Members for the five years from 2007/08 to 2011/12 (see Appendix II).
- (c) Benchmark data (see Appendix III).
- (d) The Executive Summary of the National Census of Local Authority Councillors 2010 (LGA Census 2010), published October 2011, the main findings of which are summarised in Appendix IV.

1.9 For administrative purposes only, the IRP was asked to consider the consolidation of the separate IT expense payment to Members (£35 per month) into the Basic Allowance.

1.10 Following the agreement to increase, from 2012/13, the mileage allowance for use of own car to 45p (the HMRC approved basic mileage rate effective from 6 April 2011) for the first 50 miles of a return journey, in recognition of current fuel price levels, the IRP considered whether it would be appropriate to review:

- the mileage rate reimbursable for return journeys over 50 miles (presently 18p per mile) to 25p per mile (the secondary HMRC approved mileage rate approved for annual business miles over 10,000); and
- the flat rate SRA paid to compensate members of the Development Control for use of own cars on site visits (presently £240 p.a.) to £270 p.a.

2.0 Allowances

There is a statutory requirement for all councillors to be paid a Basic Allowance. The allowance is intended to recognise the time commitment of all councillors including inevitable calls on their time such as committee meetings, constituent business and attendance at political group meetings. It is also intended to cover incidental costs such as the use of a member's home. Under a separate scheme, the Council offers members the free use of a LapTop.

SRAs are payable to those Councillors who have significant additional responsibilities.

In 2011/12 the total cost of the scheme for all allowances at East Herts Council was £357,632.17. This figure includes all basic and special responsibility allowances paid, as well as travel and subsistence; it does not include employer's NI contributions or the IT expense payment (£35/month).

Basic allowance

The Basic Allowance in East Herts was cut for 2010/11 by 10% from £5,274 (the average of the basic allowance for the three years 2007/08, 2008/09 and 2009/10) and has been maintained at this lower level since then. Accordingly, the IRP considered it appropriate to review this figure and how it is calculated.

Hourly rate basis:

One method of recalculating the basic allowance would be to base the allowance on an assumed hourly rate of pay. In 2009 the Local Government Association suggested a daily rate for assessment of £149. For example, the basic allowances payable by St Albans City Council since 2004/05 are based on the average of the National and Hertfordshire non-manual average hourly wage rates (taken from the published New Earnings Survey for 2000) resulting then in an average hourly rate of £12.92.

It is difficult to assess the number of hours members spend on council business as the workload of members varies considerably. A survey in 2006 suggested an average rate of 21.9 hours per week. The LGA Census 2010 which surveyed councillors in England reported an average of 23 hours per week and that councillors in 'shire districts' such as East Herts spend on average 18.2 hours a week on council and political business.

However, this figure needs to be considered in light of the fact that in Hertfordshire there are two tiers of council, whereas in many other areas there is only one. Moreover, this figure includes party political business alongside council work, which arguably should not be remunerated, and such statistics do not take into account differing responsibilities of councillors which may be otherwise remunerated through an SRA.

The St Albans City Council hourly rate is multiplied by 597 hours per year (being 13 hours (1.75days) per week, multiplied by 46 weeks (allowing for holidays)). This figure is then discounted by 40% to recognise that that percentage of each member's assumed time commitment is given voluntarily – the "voluntary service principle" as determined by the Council.

Benchmarking basis:

As identified by the external auditors (2008/09), benchmarking should be one of the pieces of information used in reviewing the level of members' allowances.

Benchmark data (Appendix III) relating to members' allowances in the 10 borough/district council in Hertfordshire shows basic allowances for 2012/13

ranging from £4,100 (Broxbourne) to £7,209 (Watford), with an average of £5,256. The basic allowance payable to East Herts (the largest district geographically, with the second largest population) members (£4,747) is below this average.

Special Responsibility Allowances:

There are a number of approaches to calculating SRAs and, according to the paper by the Councillors' Commission on Members' Remuneration (2007), the 'multiplier approach' is the most popular. This method has the advantage of being understandable, simple and transparent. The IRP continues to adopt this approach.

In assessing the multiplier that should be applied to calculate the SRAs, the IRP has had regard to the leadership skills required and the time commitment necessary effectively to provide such leadership, as well as appropriate benchmarking against other authorities.

3.0 Considerations

3.1 In conducting its review, the IRP also took account of the following factors:

- (a) the prevailing economic climate and, particularly, the likelihood that any increase for 2013/14 in local government officer pay will be significantly below the current rate of inflation;
- (b) the issues and deliberations of the IRP during its last review and the acceptance by Council of the IRP's recommendations for the 2012/13 Members' Allowances Scheme;
- (c) legislative changes, particularly the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 impacting on Members' workloads;
- (d) issues concerning attracting demographically representative candidates to stand for election as councillors and also political leadership succession planning;
- (e) setting allowances at levels that reflected the time and work needed to undertake the duties and responsibilities of a Member of East Herts Council, including those roles that attracted SRAs, but also recognised the interest of Council Tax payers;
- (f) previous levels of Members' allowances for East Herts;
- (g) current inflation levels.

4.0 Conclusions

4.1 The IRP concluded that no persuasive case had been made to increase any of the current allowances payable to Members of East Herts Council, save for the review of compensation payable for use of own motor vehicle (see

para 1.10 above) and consolidation of the IT expense payment within the Basic Allowance.

4.2 It was, however, acknowledged that a further review of allowances may be necessary, possibly in advance of the next annual review, once the implications for Members' workload and responsibilities arising from the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 have been more fully evaluated by the Authority.

5.0 The Independent Remuneration Panel ('IRP')

5.1 The following individuals formed the IRP undertaking the review of Members' Allowances:

Peter Boylan, Nicola Burdett, Bernard Engel, Denis Filer (Chairman), Catherine Lofthouse, Sally Newton, Jonathan Pool.

5.2 The IRP received administrative support from the Head of Democratic and Legal Support Services.

6.0 Recommendation:

that the allowance levels within the 2012/13 scheme be retained for 2013/14 (1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014), save for:

- **the consolidation of the IT expense payment of £420 p.a. into the Basic Allowance subject to the qualification below relating to SRAs;**
- **the application of the multipliers to arrive at the SRAs payable shall be to the Basic Allowance (as amended), less the consolidated IT expense payment of £420.**
- **an increase in SRA payments to Development Control committee members to £270 (2012/13: £240) p.a.**
- **the mileage allowance payable in respect of use of own motor vehicle being revised to 45p (2012/13 45p) per mile for the first 50 miles of a journey and 25p (2012/13 18p) per mile thereafter.**

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For the year	1 April to 31 March 2014 (proposed)		1 April to 31 March 2013 (actual)	
	Multiplier	£	Multiplier	£
Basic Allowance		5,166.60 **		4,746.60
<i>** includes consolidation of Communications Allowance - £420</i>				
Special Responsibility Allowances				
Leader of the Council	4.00	18,986.40	4.00	18,986.40
Deputy Leader	2.50	11,866.50	2.50	11,866.50
Executive member	2.00	9,493.20	2.00	9,493.20
Committee Chairman				
Development control	1.50	7,119.90	1.50	7,119.90
Committee Chairmen				
Corporate Business Scrutiny	1.25	5,933.25	1.25	5,933.25
Licensing	1.25	5,933.25	1.25	5,933.25
Committee Chairmen				
Audit	1.00	4,746.60	1.00	4,746.60
Human resources	1.00	4,746.60	1.00	4,746.60
Committee Chairmen				
Community Scrutiny	0.75	3,559.95	0.75	3,559.95
Environment Scrutiny	0.75	3,559.95	0.75	3,559.95
Leader of a minority political group	0.10 x basic allowance (less £420**) x number of members		0.10 x basic allowance x number of members	
Chairman of Highways Panel (when an EHDC Member)		not applicable	0.25	1,186.65
Chairman of Health Engagement Panel	0.50	2,373.30	0.50	2,373.30
Development control committee Member		270.00		240.00
Co-optee Allowances				
Chairman of Standards Committee		not applicable	0.50	2,373.30
Member of Standards Committee		not applicable	0.25	1,186.65
Mileage allowance				
Motor Vehicles	45p per mile for the first 50 miles of a (return) journey and thereafter		45p (33p) per mile for the first 50 miles of a (return) journey and thereafter	
		25p per mile		18p per mile
Bicycles	20p per mile		20p per mile	
Public transport (including use of taxis for short journeys where public transport is not convenient)	Reimbursement of actual cost or ordinary standard fare, whichever is the lesser upon production of a receipt		Reimbursement of actual cost or ordinary standard fare, whichever is the lesser upon production of a receipt	
Carer's Allowance	£9.00 per hour or the actual sum paid, whichever is the lesser		£9.00 per hour or the actual sum paid, whichever is the lesser	
Travel and Subsistence Allowance				
in the case of an absence not involving an absence overnight from the usual place of residence:				
of more than 4 hours before 11 am Breakfast*		6.45		6.45
of more than 4 hours, including the period between 12 noon and 2 pm Lunch*		8.91		8.91
of more than 4 hours including the period between 3 pm and 6 pm Tea*		3.52		3.52
Of more than 4 hours ending after 7 pm Evening Meal*		11.03		11.03
* Not claimable where refreshments have been provided at the meeting/event attended				
in the case of an absence involving an absence overnight from the usual place of residence	The actual cost of overnight accommodation and, where meals are not included, subsistence allowance as detailed above		The actual cost of overnight accommodation and, where meals are not included, subsistence allowance as detailed above	

Year	2011/12	2010/11	2009/10	2008/09	2007/08
	£	£	£	£	£
Basic Allowances	236,513.38	234,899.72	250,134.39	270,228.00	267,706.46
SRAs	112,117.79	156,956.45	166,163.39	178,848.22	177,550.99
Travel & subsistence	9,001.01	10,622.81	14,591.92	13,956.97	16,045.87
TOTALS*	<u>357,632.18</u>	<u>402,478.98</u>	<u>430,889.70</u>	<u>463,033.19</u>	<u>461,303.32</u>

* excluding Communications Allowances, Employer's National Insurance Contributions'

Council	East Herts	Broxbourne	Dacorum	Hertsmere	Watford	St Albans	Stevenage	Three Rivers	Welwyn/Hatfield	North Herts
<i>Councillors</i>	50	30 *	51	40	36	58	39	48	48	49
<i>Population**</i>	137,700	93,600	144,800	100,000	90,300	140,600	84,000	87,300	110,500	127,100
<i>** Source: Office for National Statistics, 2011 Census</i>			<i>* from 2012/13 - previously 37</i>							
2012/13										
Basic Allowance <i>excluding IT Contribution</i>	£4,747 £420	£4,100	£4,951	£5,385	£7,209	£5,210	£7,124	£4,581	£4,758	£4,500
2011/12										
Basic Allowance	£4,747	£4,100	£4,951	£5,385	£7,209	£5,210	£6,767	£4,581	£4,758	£4,500
Totals: Basic Allowances	£236,513	£154,559	£255,492	£210,881	£257,052	£301,027	£264,561	£219,793	£227,693	£211,609
SRAs	£112,118	£63,881	£131,034	£110,623	£71,335 *	£97,459	£176,391	£70,706	£109,627	£105,399
TOTAL ALLOWANCES	£348,631	£218,440	£386,526	£321,504	£328,387	£398,485	£440,952	£290,500	£337,320	£317,009
Total allowances per Councillor	£6,973	£5,904	£7,579	£8,038	£9,122	£6,870	£11,306	£6,052	£7,028	£6,470
Spend per Resident	£2.53	£2.33	£2.67	£3.22	£3.64	£2.83	£5.25	£3.33	£3.05	£2.49
<i>excluding IT Contribution</i>	£21,000			£4,773		£18,850		£20,227		
<i>* excluding Mayor</i>					£65,738					
2010/11										
Basic Allowance	£4,747	£4,100	£4,951	£5,385	£7,209	£5,210	£7,124	£5,090	£4,758	£3,798
Totals: Basic Allowances	£234,900	£155,802	£249,184	£206,874	£256,754	£301,027	£275,309	£244,313	£227,362	£178,874
SRAs	£154,583	£73,760	£130,288	£114,522	£94,103 *	£117,407	£195,165	£76,060	£108,842	£105,399
TOTAL ALLOWANCES	£389,483	£229,561	£379,472	£321,396	£350,858	£418,434	£470,474	£320,373	£336,203	£284,273
Total allowances per Councillor	£7,790	£6,204	£7,441	£8,035	£9,746	£7,214	£12,063	£6,674	£7,004	£5,801
Spend per Resident	£2.83	£2.45	£2.62	£3.21	£3.89	£2.98	£5.60	£3.67	£3.04	£2.24
<i>excluding IT Contribution</i>	£21,000			£6,633		£18,850		£20,247		
<i>* excluding Mayor</i>					£65,738					

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National Census of Local Authority Councillors 2010

The report of the sixth census of local authority councillors in England has been published. The census provides the most comprehensive 'snapshot' of local government representation and analyses of trends over time.

The census asks councillors about:

- their work as councillors
- their views on a range of issues
- their personal background.

The census ensures that the LGA has accurate information about councillors, and how they carry out their work, and hence receive the best possible support. Accurate data of this nature is key if councils are to continue to develop their community leadership and place-shaping roles.

Some of the main findings are summarised below:

Work as a councillor

- Councillors spent, on average, 23 hours per week on council/political business, similar to 2006 and 2008.
- 57 per cent of councillors held one or more positions of leading responsibility within the council and 53 per cent of all councillors received a special responsibility allowance in addition to their basic allowance.
- From a list of eight resources or learning opportunities, councillors ranked IT support (21 per cent) and administrative support (21 per cent) as those that would be most beneficial to their role.

Issues and views of councillors

- 88 per cent of councillors cited a desire to serve the community as their reason for wanting to become a councillor.
- 94 per cent thought that listening to local views was the most important thing for councillors to do, while 91 per cent said that supporting the local community was the most important thing for them to do.
- 67 per cent of councillors intend to stand for re-election at the end of their term in office and 83 per cent would recommend taking on the role to others.

Personal background of councillors

- 68 per cent of councillors were male, 31 per cent were female. The proportion of female councillors has increased from 28 per cent in 1997.
- The average age of councillors has increased from 55 in 1997 to 60 in 2010.
- 96 per cent of councillors were white and 4 per cent came from an ethnic minority background.

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