

ESSENTIAL REFERENCE PAPER "C"

PROPOSED INCREASES IN MEMBERS ALLOWANCES

Allowances for the Period 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017

	Current		Proposed Increase 2017/2018
Basic Allowance	£5,218		£5,270
Special Responsibility Allowances			
Leader of the	£19,176		£19,377
Council			
Deputy Leader	£11,985		£12,105
Executive Member	£9,588		£9,684
Committee Chairman	Development Management	£7,191	£7,263
	Corporate Business Scrutiny	£5,992.50	Absorbed within new Scrutiny Committees
	Licensing	£5,992.50	£6,051
	Audit and Governance,	£4,794	Absorbed within new Scrutiny Committees
	Human Resources	£4,794	£4,842
	Community Scrutiny	£3,595.50	Absorbed within new Scrutiny Committees

	Environment Scrutiny	£3,595.50	Absorbed within new Scrutiny Committees
	Health and Wellbeing	£3,595.50	Absorbed within new Scrutiny Committees
Leader of Minority of Political Group	A Factor of 0.1 of the Basic Allowance multiplied by the number of Members		To be distributed on a pro-rata basis dependent on the number of members in each group – basic allowance divided by

			number of members of the Opposition Group)
Development Management Committee		£270.00	To be discontinued

MILEAGE EXPENSES – CAR PARKING, TRAVEL EXPENSES & SUBSISTENCE

The car mileage rate is updated annually in accordance with HMRC rates. It applies irrespective of engine size or distance travelled, ~~and is currently 0.45 pence per mile for the first 50 miles of a (return) journey and 0.25 per mile thereafter.~~ and will be 0.45p per mile for the first 10,000 miles

CARER'S ALLOWANCE

A care allowance is payable to any member who incurs expenditure on the care of young children and/or dependent relatives in order to perform their duties as a Councillor.

The previous Independent Remuneration agreed that the following amounts could be claimed for Councillors attending approved duties:

- a) childcare- maximum of £9.00 per hour, and
- b) dependent care- maximum of £10.15 per hour

SUBSISTENCE AND REFRESHMENTS FOR APPROVED DUTIES

Members can claim travel and subsistence for approved duties. The scheme currently provides in the case of an absence, not involving an absence overnight from the usual place of residence the following rates:

Subsistence type	Details	Payment amount	Proposed Amount (agreed at Full Council in 2015/2016)
Breakfast*	Of more than 4 hours before 11am Breakfast before 7am	£6.45	£7.21
Breakfast*	Of more than 4 hours, including the period between 12 noon and 2pm	£8.91	£0
Lunch *allowance	Of more than 4 hours including the period 3pm to 6pm Between noon and 2.30pm	£8.91	£9.95
Tea*	of more than 4 hours ending after 7pm Between 2.30pm and 7pm	£3.52	£3.94
Evening meal		£11.03	£12.33
Absence overnight	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 <u>the most cost effective</u> overnight accommodation and where meals are not included,

- Not claimable where refreshments have been provided at the meeting/event

The NJC ceased to produce nationally agreed subsistence rates for local government staff in 1996. Since that time, subsistence rates have been a subject for local determination.

There is a separate subsistence scheme for staff. The link is provided here <http://www.eastherts.gov.uk/intranet/article/30140/Subsistence-Rates>

It is proposed that the overnight accommodation is limited to add the additional sentence, The actual cost of the most cost effective overnight accommodation

Amendments were agreed in Full Council on 17 February 2016 to the subsistence provisions in the Members Allowance scheme to bring this in line with the subsistence provisions for staff however, this does not appear to have been reflected in the current scheme and is therefore reiterated above for clarity.