

# **Committee Agenda**

Title:

**General Purposes** 

Meeting Date:

Tuesday 22nd February, 2022

Time:

6.00 pm

Venue:

Room 18.06-07, 18th Floor, 64 Victoria Street, London, SW1E 6QP

Members:

#### Councillors:

Paul Swaddle (Chairman) Melvyn Caplan (Vice-Chairman) David Boothroyd Gotz Mohindra

Members of the public are welcome to attend the meeting and listen to the discussion on Part 1 of the Agenda



Admission to the public gallery is by ticket, issued from the ground floor reception at City Hall. If you have a disability and require any special assistance please contact the Committee Officer (details listed below) in advance of the meeting.



An Induction loop operates to enhance sound for anyone wearing a hearing aid or using a transmitter. If you require any further information, please contact the Committee Officer, Tristan Fieldsend, Senior Committee and Governance Officer.

Email: tfieldsend@westminster.gov.uk
Corporate Website: www.westminster.gov.uk

**Note for Members:** Members are reminded that Officer contacts are shown at the end of each report and Members are welcome to raise questions in advance of the meeting. With regard to item 2, guidance on declarations of interests is included in the Code of Governance; if Members and Officers have any particular questions they should contact the Principal Lawyer in advance of the meeting please.

#### **AGENDA**

# **PART 1 (IN PUBLIC)**

#### 1. MEMBERSHIP

To note any changes to the membership.

#### 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive declarations by Members and Officers of the existence and nature of any pecuniary interests or any other significant interest in matters on this agenda.

3. MINUTES (Pages 3 - 4)

To sign the minutes of the meeting held on 7 September 2021.

# 4. APPROVAL OF COMPENSATION PAYMENT FOLLOWING A HOUSING OMBUDSMAN INVESTIGATION

(Pages 5 - 48)

Report of the Executive Director for Growth, Planning and Housing.

#### 5. MEMBERS' ALLOWANCE SCHEME 2022-2023

(Pages 49 - 62)

Report of the Senior Committee and Governance Officer.

Stuart Love Chief Executive 14 February 2022



# **MINUTES**

# **General Purposes**

#### MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of a meeting of the **General Purposes** held on **Tuesday 7**<sup>th</sup> **September, 2021**, Room 18.12, 64 Victoria Street, London, SW1E 6QP.

**Members Present:** Councillors Paul Swaddle (Chairman), David Boothroyd, Matthew Green, and Tim Mitchell

Apologies: Councillors Melvyn Caplan and Gotz Mohindra

#### 1 MEMBERSHIP

1.1 It was noted that Cllr Mitchell had replaced Cllr Caplan and Cllr Green had replaced Cllr Mohindra.

#### 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

2.1 There were no declarations of interest

#### 3 MINUTES

#### 3.1 **RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the meeting held on 23 February 2021 be signed as a correct record of proceedings.

#### 4 POLLING DISTRICT AND POLLING PLACES REVIEW

4.1 Evgenia Tzampoura (Data and Intelligence Analyst), Martin Pyroyiannos (Electoral Services Manager) and Jamie Cottam-Allan (Senior Electoral Services Officer) presented a report setting out proposals for new polling district boundaries within wards and the re-designating of new polling places. It was explained that this was required following the new ward arrangements implemented following recommendations made by the Local Government Boundary Commission.

- 4.2 The Committee discussed the proposals with a particular focus on Hyde Park, Queen's Park and Regent's Park wards and potential issues for residents accessing these polling places. It was noted that all suggestions had been assessed and the most suitable venues had been selected but changes could occur as alternative venues became available in the future.
- 4.3 The Committee was pleased to note that significant communication would be undertaken in local areas where changes to polling places had taken place. In addition, accessibility and access had formed a formal part of the review and more granular work would be undertaken in the runup to the next election to resolve any potential issues.

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- 1) Noted the proposals;
- Approved the Polling Districts and Polling Places recommendations made in this report; and
- 3) Noted that the Chief Executive had delegated powers to designate alternative polling places in the event of any polling place not being available at any election or better provision being identified, following consultation with the Party Whips and respective ward councillors.

| The Meeting ended at 6.14pm |      |
|-----------------------------|------|
| CHAIRMAN:                   | DATE |

**Meeting or Decision** 

Maker:

General Purposes Committee

Date: 22 February 2022

Classification: General Release

Appendix A and B - Not for Publication

Title: Approval of compensation Payment

following a Housing Ombudsman

Investigation

Wards Affected: N/A

City for All Summary Contributes to our commitment to Vibrant

Communities (Improving efficiency in

Repairs & Major Works)

**Financial Summary:** A compensation payment of £3,790 is

required to the leaseholder from the Housing

Revenue Account

Debbie Jackson: Executive Director for Report of:

Growth, Planning and Housing

#### 1. **Executive Summary**

- 1.1 Following a complaint from a leaseholder through the Council's complaints process and to the Housing Ombudsman, a compensation payment of £3,790 is required to the leaseholder from the Housing Revenue Account. As the level of compensation awarded is in excess of £2,000 approval a report is required to come to the General-Purpose Committee.
- 1.2 The complaint concerns failure to undertake repairing responsibilities,

poor complaint handling and compensation for the associated impact of the failures on the complainant.

Page 5

#### 2. Recommendations

2.1 That the Committee note the payment of the compensation made to comply with the Housing Ombudsman's order.

#### 3. Reasons for Decision

3.1 Compensation payments awarded which exceed £2,000 need to come before the General-Purpose Committee in order to comply with the Council's Good Practice Guide for Effective Complaint Handling and under Part F (Section 4) of Westminster City Council's Financial Regulations.

# 4. Background, including Policy Context

- 4.1 The leaseholder submitted a complaint to CityWest Homes on 16 June 2018 covering the following issues:
  - Three leaks in the property over a prolonged period
  - A blocked kitchen drain
  - Damage to the windows
  - Poor complaint handling
  - Request for compensation.
- 4.2 The complainant did not receive a response and escalated the complaint to a Ward Councillor, but this was also not responded to. A further complaint was registered and investigated at Stage 1 when and the resident was offered compensation of £1250 for delays in repairing the windows.
- 4.3 The complaint was escalated to Stage 2 and a number of further failures were identified. Compensation was awarded at Stage 2 for all of the failures found, taking into account the date of the initial submission of the complaint of 16 June 2018 as follows:

| Award  | Service failure   |
|--------|---|
| £1,250 | Delays to window repairs (awarded at Stage 1)   |
| £250   | Delays to leak repairs first reported in September 2017   |
| £50    | Replacement of keys lost by contractors   |
| £50    | Incorrect advice given regarding escalation of the complaint to the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman Page 6 |

| £50    | Incorrect advice given regarding what would be considered by insurers and what was covered under the compensation policy.    |
|--------|--|
| £50    | Failure to advise that investigations are time bound and the reasons for this  |
| £565   | Time and trouble in pursuing complaint from first submission in June 2018 to October 2020 (based on £250 per annum pro-rata) |
| £1,125 | Distress and inconvenience for same period (based on £500 per annum pro-rata)  |
| £100   | Failure to address all elements of complaint at Stage 1  |
| £100   | Failure to escalate the complaint to Stage 2 as requested  |
| £100   | Failure to provide escalation details in our responses on 24 May 2019 and 11 June 2019                                       |
| £100   | Delayed Stage 2 response   |

# 4.4 Investigation by the Housing Ombudsman:

The Housing Ombudsman reviewed the case and agreed that the Stage 2 complaint investigation had addressed all of the concerns and identified the failures. It also acknowledged that the correct level of redress and compensation had been awarded at Stage 2, in line with the Housing Ombudsman's code.

The Housing Ombudsman recommended in its report of September 2021:

If not already done so, that the landlord renew its offer to the resident of the £3790 compensation previously offered, comprising:

- i. £1250 compensation offered in June 2019 for delayed window repairs.
- ii. £50 offered at Stage 2 for the replacement keys.
- iii. £250 offered at Stage 2 for the delayed repair of Leak 1.
- iv. £2240 offered at Stage 2 for the failures in its complaint handling.

# 4.5 Post complaint follow-up work

The stage 2 review of the complaint, identified failures in the complaints handling process and staff were taken through a training and development programme. This included:

- Complaints Handling workshops delivered by the Housing Ombudsman service
- Redress and compensation workshop delivered by the Housing Ombudsman service

In addition to the above training, staff were provided with guidance on what we consider through the complaints and compensation policy and what elements are better investigated and handled as Insurance claims.

The offer of compensation made at Stage 2 of the complaints process, while in keeping with the Housing Ombudsman's guidelines for compensation, exceeded the limit possible without notifying the Committee and the Housing Complaints team have now been briefed on the approval process for compensation payments exceeding £2000.

# 5. Financial Implications

The compensation awarded will be paid from the HRA budget established for the purpose.

## 6. Legal Implications

The Housing Ombudsman recommended the Local Authority renew its offer of £3790 compensation previously offered. The report sets out the action taken following the recommendations of the Housing Ombudsman.

If you have any queries about this Report or wish to inspect any of the Background Papers please contact:

Nadia Ali, Housing Complaints Manager nali@westminster.gov.uk

#### **APPENDICES:**

Appendix A - Stage 2 response dated 8 October 2020 (Confidential)

Appendix B - Housing Ombudsman report and determination issued on 13 September 2021(Confidential)

BACKGROUND PAPERS: Page 8

Stage 1 response dated 11 March 2019

Stage 1 follow on response dated 24 May 2019

Stage 1 follow on response dated 11 June 2019



By virtue of paragraph(s) 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted



By virtue of paragraph(s) 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted





# General Purposes Committee

Date: 22 February 2022

Classification: For General Release

Title: Members' Allowance Scheme 2022-2023

Report of: Senior Committee and Councillor Co-Ordinator

Wards Involved: None

Policy Context: Management of the Council

Financial Summary: There are no additional financial impacts

arising from the proposals set out in this report

Report Author and Contact Tristan Fieldsend

Details: Email: tfieldsend@westminster.gov.uk

### 1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Council is required, if it wishes to pay such allowances, to adopt a Members' Allowances Scheme on an annual basis with effect from 1 April each year. Such a scheme can be amended in year.
- 1.2 In drawing up the Members' Allowances Scheme, regard has been given to the recommendations of the London-wide Independent Remuneration Panel convened by London Councils whose most recent report (2018) is listed with the relevant statutory guidance as background documents.
- 1.3 The proposed scheme from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 has been prepared on the basis of the current scheme.

#### 2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Council be recommended to approve the Members' Allowances Scheme attached as Appendix A for 2022-2023 with effect from 1 April 2022.
- 2.2 That the Council be recommended to agree to increase the Members' Allowances (Basis and SRA) attached in Appendix A for 2022-2023 in line with any salary increase for Council staff that may be agreed by the National Joint Council for Local Government Services.

## 3. Background

- 3.1 There is a requirement for local authorities if they wish to adopt a Members' Allowance Scheme, that this be done on an annual basis, with effect from 1 April each year. Schemes can be amended at any time during the year.
- 3.2 When considering a new scheme, or amending an existing scheme, local authorities must have regard to the report of the London Councils' Independent Panel on the Remuneration of Councillors and relevant guidance from the Secretary of State. The Committee and the Council are required to have regard to the Panel's report in considering its own scheme. The Council's overall budget for Members Allowances remains amongst the lowest of all London boroughs.

#### Members' Allowances

- 3.3 The current Members' Allowances Scheme, as amended, was adopted by the Council on 3 March 2021 upon recommendation from the General Purposes Committee. As in previous years regard has been given to the findings and recommendations detailed in the Panel's most recent report published in January 2018.
- 3.4 The Members Allowance budget is deemed sufficient to meet the revised financial commitments for 2022-23, as set out in the proposed scheme.
- 3.5 The Chief Whip of the Majority Party has, as in previous years, been consulted on the proposals. The Chief Whip of the Minority Party has also been invited to give views on matters to be considered. Any comments received will be verbally reported at the Committee meeting.

#### **Basic Allowance**

3.6 It is proposed to increase the level of Basic Allowance payable to all Members by the increase in salary for Council staff agreed by the National Joint Council for Local Government Services.

#### **Special Responsibility Allowance (SRA)**

- 3.7 Special responsibility allowances reflect the tasks undertaken, in particular day time duties.
- 3.8 The Scheme continues to reflect and reward the levels of duties undertaken by Members in formal posts, including those bodies which have a particularly frequent schedule of meetings.
- 3.9 It is therefore proposed for an uplift in allowance by the increase in salary for Council staff once agreed by the National Joint Council for Local Government Services.

#### **ICT Allowance**

3.10 The IT allowance is not changed as part of this review and was paid to Members in June 2018. A review of the 2022-26 allowance is scheduled to be undertaken by the Finance, Smart City and City Management Policy and Scrutiny Committee.

#### **Travel and Subsistence Allowance**

3.11 The Council's scheme continues to be more restrictive than the Panel's recommendations and only allows for travel claims for approved duties outside of the Greater London area (travel to other London Boroughs is not reclaimable). No change to this part of the scheme is proposed. Reference is included in the scheme to the availability of all zone permits for Members, for use when undertaking official duties.

### 4. Legal Implications

- 4.1 Under Regulations 4 (1) (a) and (b) of the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 (S12003/1021) there is a requirement that councils must make a scheme in accordance with the Regulations which provides for the payment of an allowance in respect of each year to each member of an authority. The scheme may provide for paying a basic allowance and any other allowances permitted by the Regulations. Regulation 10 (1) provides that if it wishes to have a scheme for the following year to commence on 1 April, the Council must make the scheme before the start of the year. Under Regulation 10 (3) schemes can be amended at any time during the year and under Regulation 10(6) amendments can take effect from the beginning of the year. The approval of the full Council is necessary for any amendments to existing schemes or the adoption of new schemes.
- 4.2 Regulations relating to Members' Allowances require the publication of the report of the Independent Remuneration Panel, the scheme of allowances and details of the total sums paid to each Member under each category of allowance in each year. The statutory guidance on the publicity requirements suggests that details of allowances paid are made available on the Council's website together with information on the responsibilities of elected Members and the duties and time commitment which the basic allowance is intended to remunerate. This has previously been agreed by this Committee.

#### 5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 The Members' Allowances budget for 2022-2023 is sufficient to fund the changes proposed in this report.
- 5.2 The Members Allowances Scheme proposed for 2022-2023 is fully funded in the draft budget for 2022-2023 including any potential uplift. The total cost is £982,341, excluding employers National Insurance contributions.

5.3 Any further increase in members' allowances - in order to mirror a possible salary increase for Council staff approved by the National Joint Council for Local Government Services is expected to be met within budget.

#### 6. Consultation

6.1 The Chief Whips of the Majority Party and Minority Party have been consulted. Any comments received will be reported at the meeting.

If you have any questions about this report, or wish to inspect one of the background papers, please contact Tristan Fieldsend:

Email: tfieldsend@westminster.gov.uk

# LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1972 BACKGROUND PAPERS

The documents referred to in compiling this report are as follows:

Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel 2018

#### APPENDIX A

# MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME FROM 1 APRIL 2021 TO 31 MARCH 2022 (AMENDED)

- 1. This Scheme is made under, and in accordance with, the provisions of the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003.
- 2. The rates of allowances specified will apply until the Scheme is amended or replaced, in which event the revised rates of allowances will be paid from the date from which the amendment takes effect.
- 3. Subject to the relevant form being completed at the appropriate time, entitlement to allowances under the Scheme commences on the date upon which a Member is elected to the Council or is elected or appointed to an office qualifying for special responsibility. The entitlement ceases on the date upon which a Member ceases to hold a qualifying office or ceases to be a Member of the Council (the fourth day after polling day in the year of City Council elections, i.e. the Monday). An apportionment of the relevant allowances will be made in the same proportion as the number of days that the Member held Office or was a Member, bears to the number of days in the relevant year.
- 4. Any Member may by notice in writing to the Committee and Councillor Support Manager elect to forego for any period any part of an entitlement to an allowance under the Scheme which will take effect from the date upon which the notice is received by the Committee and Councillor Support Manager.
- 5. Allowances will be paid by equal monthly instalments on the 20th day of each month by BACS to the account notified by the relevant Member for these purposes to the Committee and Councillor Support Manager. Members will also be required to provide a valid National Insurance Number. A £1,000 lump sum additional Basic Allowance for Members to purchase ICT equipment will be paid to any Member elected. This allowance is also payable to any Member elected at a by-election except that this allowance will not be paid if a Member received this allowance upon having been elected at a by-election in the previous 12 months.
- 6. Except where so authorised by the Committee and Councillor Support Manager any claim for travel, subsistence and care allowances must be made within two months of the date of the duty to which the claim relates.

#### **Basic Allowance**

7. A Basic Allowance of £9,622 pa from 1 April 2022 will be paid to every Member of the Council who formally elects to receive it.

#### **Special Responsibility Allowance**

8. Payments of Special Responsibility Allowances will be made to Members of the Council who hold special offices unless they formally elect not to receive them. Attached as Annex A is a list of the Special Responsibility Allowances payable from 1 April 2021.

#### Conferences

9. Councillors are entitled to have their Conference fees met when approved by the appropriate Cabinet Member, Committee or the Committee and Councillor Support Manager in consultation with the relevant party Chief Whip and to receive payments at the approved rates for travel and subsistence in respect of their attendance at conferences held outside the City to discuss matters relevant to the discharge of the Council's functions.

#### **Travel Expenses**

10. Members and Co-opted Members are entitled to claim payment of Travel Allowances at the rates of allowance set out in Annex B where expenditure has necessarily been incurred to enable them to attend an approved duty, defined as set out in Annex C, but only when travelling outside the Greater London area. Members of Education Admissions and Exclusions Appeal Panels are entitled to claim travel allowances for attendance at meetings relating to their membership at the rates set out in Annex B.

Members of the Council shall be entitled to a City Council all zones official parking permit for use when undertaking official council duties and otherwise used in accordance with the rules relating to their use.

#### **Subsistence**

11. Subsistence may be claimed only for accommodation or meals at conferences (approved in accordance with paragraph (i) of Annex C) where such costs are not included in the conference fee, subject to the maximum allowance referred to in Annex B.

## **Dependant/Carer's Allowance**

12. Members may claim this allowance against care expenses they incur in arranging carers to look after dependants who cannot be left by themselves by reason of age or other special needs. The allowance may only be claimed in respect of approved duties defined in Annex C to this scheme (and is subject to tax and National Insurance deductions at personal rates).

The maximum rate claimable shall be set at the level of the London Living Wage rate set annually by the Living Wage Foundation. The following criteria shall also apply:

- Payment is claimable in respect of children aged 15 or under or in respect of other dependants where there is medical or social work evidence that care is required.
- The allowance is not payable to any member of the claimant's household.
- The claim shall cover the time spent at the meeting plus up to one hour for travel to and from the meeting.
- The claim needs to be supported by a receipt which should be retained by the Member for auditing purposes for a period of six years.
- Any dispute as to entitlement and any allegation of abuse should be referred to the Council's Monitoring Officer for adjudication.

## Sickness and Parental Leave Policy

13. All Members shall continue to receive their Basic Allowance in full in the case of pregnancy, maternity, paternity and sickness leave.

Members entitled to a Special Responsibility Allowance shall continue to receive their allowance in the case of maternity, shared parental or adoption leave at a rate of three months full pay and the following three months at half pay.

In accordance with Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972, Members of the Council are required to attend a meeting of the Council within a six month period unless the Council agrees to an extended leave of absence prior to the expiration of that six month period. Where a Member requires an extended absence they should seek a dispensation from the Leader of the Council by submitting an application in writing to the Committee and Councillor Support Manager.

## **Payments whilst under Suspension**

14. Payments of allowances, basic and special responsibility, shall not be paid to a Member who is suspended or if partially suspended that element of special responsibility allowance which may be payable in respect of an office held by the Member to which the partial suspension relates.

#### **Publication**

15. This scheme will be published as required by legislation. At the end of each financial year the City Council is required by legislation to publish the sums paid to councillors under the Scheme.

**ANNEX A** 

# MEMBERS ALLOWANCE SCHEME – SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY ALLOWANCES WITH EFFECT FROM 1 APRIL 2022

| Office Holders  | Allowances<br>(from 1.4.22)<br>Proposed                     | Total Cost<br>(full year)                                     |
|---|---|---|
| Leader/Deputy Leader  | £   | £   |
| Leader of the Council (Chairman of the Cabinet)   | 39,308  | 39,308  |
| Deputy Leader of the Council (Vice Chairman of the Cabinet)   | 19,916  | 19,916  |
| Cabinet Members   |   |   |
| Each Cabinet Member (excluding the Leader and the Deputy Leader) (x7)   | 11,531  | 80,716  |
| Opposition Leader/Whips   |   |   |
| Leader of the Opposition Chief Whip (Majority) Chief Whip (Minority) Minority Party Deputy Leader   | 9,434<br>5,252<br>5,252<br>5,252                            | 9,434<br>5,252<br>5,252<br>5,252                              |
| Policy and Scrutiny Committees Each Scrutiny Committee Chairman (x4) Minority Party Scrutiny Spokesperson   | 8,554<br>4,276  | 34,215<br>4,276   |
| Other Committee/Sub-Committee Chairmen Audit and Performance Standards Planning Applications Committees (x3) Licensing Sub-Committees (x4) Pension Fund Committee *Licensing Committee +Planning and City Development Committee | 8,554<br>3,207<br>4,717<br>4,717<br>3,207<br>9,434<br>9,434 | 8,554<br>3,207<br>14,151<br>18,868<br>3,207<br>9,434<br>9,434 |
| Vice-Chairmen *Planning +Licensing  | 5,252<br>5,252  | 5,252<br>5,252  |

- \* (If this Chairman/Vice Chairman is also appointed as a Chairman of a Licensing Sub-Committee they will only receive the allowance payable to the Licensing Committee Chairman/Vice Chairman)
- + (If this Chairman/Vice Chairman is also appointed as a Chairman of a Planning Applications Committee they will only receive the allowance payable to the Planning and City Development Committee Chairman/Vice Chairman)

| Deputy Cabinet Members | Deputy | Cabinet | Members |
|------------------------|--------|---------|---------|
|------------------------|--------|---------|---------|

Basic Allowance (x60)

| Each Deputy Cabinet Member appointed to support a Cabinet Member (x12)   | 3,207          | 38,484         |  |
|--|----------------|----------------|--|
| Other Panels   |                |                |  |
| Chairman of Rating Advisory Panel<br>Chairman of Discretionary Housing Benefits Panel  | 3,207<br>3,207 | 3,207<br>3,207 |  |
| Panel Members of the Discretionary Housing and Benefits Review Panel and the Rating Panel (x8)                                   | 2,138          | 17,104         |  |
| Members of Pension Fund Committee except<br>Chairman (x3)  | 2,138          | 6,414          |  |
|  |                |                |  |
|  |                |                |  |
| Panel Members of the Licensing Sub-Committees and Members of the Planning Applications Committees rate of £2,621 (x20 - £52,410) |                |                |  |
| Panel Member of the Adoption and Fostering Panel   | 3,207          | 3,207          |  |

9,622 577,358

# NOTE REGARDING SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY ALLOWANCES PAYABLE IN RESPECT OF THE INDEPENDENT PERSON APPOINTED UNDER SECTION 28 OF THE LOCALISM ACT 2011 AND CO-OPTED MEMBERS ON OTHER COMMITTEES

Each Independent Person shall be paid a Special Responsibility Allowance of £500 pa.

The co-opted Members of the Policy and Scrutiny Committee that covers education matters shall be paid upon election and completion of the necessary acceptance of office a sum of £300 to cover their out of pocket expenses for the period of their office.

#### ANNEX B

# TRAVEL AND SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCES: (OUTSIDE THE GREATER LONDON AREA)

## (A) TRAVEL

# (a) Travel by own private vehicle

| Motor Mileage Allowance | Pence Per Mile |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| Motorcycles:            |                |
| Up to 150cc             | 8.5            |
| 151-500cc               | 12.3           |
| Over 500cc              | <u>16.5</u>    |
|                         |                |
| Cars & Tri cars:        |                |
| 500cc-999cc             | 35.8           |
| 1000-1199cc             | 39.9           |
| Over 1199cc             | 49.4           |

# (b) Travel by Public Transport

The ordinary fare or any reasonably available cheap fare actually paid.

#### (c) Travel by Taxi

Members are not permitted to claim for travel by taxi except as part of onward or return travel to or from a conference held outside the Greater London area where a claim for other travel expenses has or could be made.

The Head of Committee and Governance Services shall be authorised to reimburse claims for taxi fares, on an exceptional basis, for example on medical advice, to and from approved duties. Such authority to be obtained in advance, if possible.

#### (d) Travel by Rail and Air

- (i) The ordinary fare or any available cheap fare actually paid.
- (ii) Actual expenditure incurred on:
  Reservation of seats
  Sleeping accommodation for an overnight journey
  Deposit on porterage of baggage
- (iii) Travel by Air shall only be allowed when included as part of the formal approval of the attendance at a conference or overseas visit. In the case of overseas visits the cost to be met from the budget of the relevant service.

# (e) Additional Travel Expenses

The rates specified above may be increased by not more than the amount of any expenditure incurred on tolls, ferries, parking fees or cost of overnight garaging of a motor vehicle, except that reimbursement of the Central London Congestion Charge shall not be permitted.

# (f) Subsistence

Subsistence claims for the reasonable costs of overnight accommodation or meals not included in the Conference fee can only be claimed, up to a maximum of £180 per day, upon production of relevant receipts.

# (g) Receipts

Claims for reimbursement of expenditure by main line rail, air or any other additional expenses, or subsistence, must be accompanied by a receipt.

**Note:** All Members shall be entitled to apply to the Head of Members' Services for the use of an all zones parking permit for their use whilst on Official Council business only such permit only to be used in accordance with the guidance notes for use issued with the permits.

#### ANNEX C

# LIST OF APPROVED DUTIES FOR TRAVEL, SUBSISTENCE AND CARER'S ALLOWANCE:

The following are the categories of duties which qualify for payment of travel, subsistence and carer's allowance, where such expenditure has been incurred (although separate payments will only be reimbursed for travel and subsistence outside the Greater London area):

- (a) Meetings of the Council, the Cabinet, their Committees, Sub-Committees, Panels and meetings of the Westminster Scrutiny Commission and the Policy and Scrutiny Committees and Task Groups of which the Councillor is a member or at which a Councillor who is not a member of that body attends to address the meeting with the prior permission (where such permission is required under Standing Orders) of the Chairman.
- (b) Attendance as the Council's representative at a meeting of any joint authority or Committee of local authorities or of any Committee or Sub-Committee of the body of which the Council is a constituent member.
- (c) Attendance as the Council's representative at meetings of any association of authorities or Committee or Sub-Committee of the association of which the Councillor is a member.
- (d) Attendance at duties which qualify for attendance allowance as single member duties as specified in the Regulations, currently:
  - Meetings to determine the attendance of individual pupils at any out of borough special schools.
  - Rota and other visits to inspect establishments outside of the borough on behalf of the Cabinet Members for Children and Young People and Adults Social Care.
- (e) Attendance at any other meeting convened by the Council, the Cabinet, a Committee or Sub-Committee to discuss matters relevant to the discharge of the Council's functions and to which Members of more than one Party Group have been invited.
- (f) Attendance at any meeting, which is an induction training session, seminar, presentation, or briefing arranged by Chief Officers of the City Council for all Members of a Committee, Sub-Committee or Panel to discuss matters relevant to the discharge of the Council's functions and to which Members of more than one Party Group have been invited.
- (g) Attendance as the Council's representative in connection with the discharge of the Council's functions at meetings of outside bodies (excluding local authority maintained schools), their Committees and Sub-Committees. The Head of

- Committee and Governance Services maintains a list of such representatives and has delegated powers to add and remove bodies to this category to reflect formal appointments made by the City Council.
- (h) Attendance at visits and inspection of sites and premises arranged by officers or approved by Cabinet/Committee (eg opening of new facilities).
- (i) Attendance approved by the appropriate Committee or by the Head of Member Services, in accordance with his delegation at conferences convened by other authorities and organisations to discuss matters relevant to the discharge of the Council's functions.
- (j) Attendance by the Leader of the Council, Cabinet Members, Deputy Cabinet Members, Leader of the Opposition, and Chief Whips on matters concerning the discharge of the Council's functions.
- (k) Attendance by Cabinet Members, Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Committees and Sub-Committees concerning the discharge of functions relevant to the work of their portfolio or their Committees or Sub-Committees, including Chairman's Call-over meetings and site visits.
- (I) Attendance before Parliamentary Committees, official bodies and inquiries to give evidence or make representations on the council's behalf.
- (m) Attendance as the Council's appointee or nominee at any meeting. (This excludes party group meetings but includes single member duties where one member has been appointed, appearing as a Council witness at a Planning Inquiry or court proceedings or member-level working groups appointed by a Committee and representation on any outside body which is not eligible for attendance allowance).