



CITY OF WESTMINSTER

MINUTES

General Purposes

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of a meeting of the **General Purposes Committee** held on **Wednesday 8th June, 2022**, Rooms 18.01 & 18.03, 18th Floor, 64 Victoria Street, London, SW1E 6QP.

Members Present: Councillors David Boothroyd (Chair), Aicha Less, Matt Noble and Paul Swaddle

1 MEMBERSHIP

1.1 There were no changes to the membership.

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 22 February 2022 be signed as a correct record of proceedings.

4 MEMBER ALLOWANCES SCHEME 2022-2023 - AMENDMENT

4.1 The Committee received a report setting out amendments to the Member Allowances Scheme 2022-2023 which had been formally adopted by Council on 2 March 2022.

4.2 It had previously been discussed by the General Purposes Committee that a review of the scheme would be undertaken following the local elections in May 2022. The amended scheme set out in the report reflected the uplift in allowances of 1.75% that had been applied in line with the salary increase for Council staff agreed by the National Joint Council for Local Government Services. The amended scheme also reflected the reduction in the total

number of Councillors from 60 to 54. The Committee noted the importance of consultation in drawing up the Members' Allowances Scheme and in addition noted that regard had been given to the recommendations of the London-wide Independent Remuneration Panel convened by London Councils.

- 4.3 The Committee discussed the current level of IT allowance available to members and noted that the former Finance, Smart City and City Management Policy and Scrutiny Committee had recommended an increase of £250. During the debate it was agreed that it was justifiable for the one-off IT allowance to be increased by £250 to £1,250. This allowance had not been increased for a significant period of time and with current inflationary pressures an increase in the IT allowance would help support those members requesting it, in their roles.

RESOLVED:

- 1) That the Council be recommended to approve the amended Members' Allowances Scheme for 2022-2023.
- 2) That the Council be recommended to agree an increase in the Members IT Allowance by £250 to a total of £1,250.

The Meeting ended at 6.05 pm

CHAIRMAN: _____

DATE _____