

## Sunderland City Council Scheme of Members' Allowances

At a meeting on 29 January 2014 the Council agreed to amend the Members' Allowances Scheme. In determining the Scheme, the Council complied with its duty to have regard to the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel of which it accepted all of the recommendations. The amendments to the Scheme came into effect on 29 January and the Scheme will operate in the financial year 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015 at the rates indicated below.

The main features of the Scheme, which reflect the Panel's recommendations, are summarised below.

- **The following allowances remain unchanged:**

	£
Basic Allowance	8,369
Special Responsibility Allowances (SRAs) as follows:	
Leader	37,667
Deputy Leader	25,111
Cabinet Secretary	25,111
Leader Majority Party in Opposition	12,556
Leader Minority Party in Opposition	6,277
Deputy Leader Majority Party in Opposition	8,369
Deputy Leader Minority Party in Opposition	4,184
Cabinet Member	20,716
Policy Member	12,556
Chairmen of:	
Scrutiny Committee	12,556
Area Committee	10,350
Regulatory Committee	8,369
Licensing Committee	8,369
Planning and Highways Committee	6,277
Development Control Sub Committees	6,277
Vice Chair Scrutiny Committee	6,277
Vice Chair Area Committee	6,277
Scrutiny Lead Member	5,179
Adoptions and Permanency Panel (to be paid to up to 2 members)	4,184
Mayor	17,205
<b>Co-opted Members:</b>	
Port Board	15,000

Audit and Governance Committee:	
Chair	6,277
Independent Member	3,139

- **The following SRAs were amended to the rates shown below:**

Fostering Panel	4,184
Deputy Mayor	5,735

- **The remaining provisions of the scheme will continue to apply as summarised below.**

All co-optees should continue to be eligible to recover travelling and subsistence costs under the scheme

Carers' Allowances should remain at up to £7.22 per hour

Where the positions of the Chair of the Licensing Committee and the Regulatory Committee are held by the same member only one allowance should be payable but increased by a factor of 50%.

All Members of the Council should be entitled to pensions in accordance with a Scheme made under Section 7 of the Superannuation Act 1972 and Basic Allowance and Special Responsibility Allowances should be treated as amounts for which pensions are payable.

## **Travel, Accommodation and Subsistence Allowances**

### **Travel**

Car Allowance	45p per mile for first 10,000 miles and 25p thereafter
Bicycle Allowance	20p per mile
Motor Cycle Allowance	24p per mile

The above rates match Her Majesty's Revenues and Customs authorised mileage rates and will be updated when HMRC publishes revised allowances.

### **Overnight Accommodation**

The allowance will not be claimable as an allowance as such, rather reasonable costs of an overnight stay (including breakfast) will be met for business class accommodation (3 star or 4 star) within and outside of London. Unless there are exceptional circumstances the Council will book the accommodation direct selecting the most economic option available and utilising the established procurement arrangements in place. Where exceptional circumstances exist, these will be approved in advance by the Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services and reasonable costs will be reimbursed subject to submission of receipts.

Copies of the Independent Remuneration Panel's report can be inspected at the Civic Centre, Burdon Road, Sunderland (the Council's principal office) and also at the Customer Service Centre, Fawcett Street, Sunderland, during normal office hours (8.30 am – 5.00 pm Monday to Thursday and 8.30 am – 4.45 pm Friday).

Copies are also available free of charge. The report can also be viewed on the Council's website [www.sunderland.gov.uk](http://www.sunderland.gov.uk)

**Dave Smith**  
**Chief Executive**