

## BOROUGH OF KETTERING

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<b>Report Originator</b>	Sue Lyons Head of Democratic and Legal Services	<i>Fwd Plan Ref No:</i> C13/008	
<b>Wards Affected</b>	N/A	18th December 2013	
<b>Title</b>	MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS		

### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report is, in effect, a piece of housekeeping to clarify how the Special Responsibility Allowance (SRA) payments to the Executive should operate following changes in the number of the Executive members.

### 2. INFORMATION

- 2.1 On 25th April 2012, Council considered a report from the Independent Review Panel on Members' Allowances, the relevant section of which is attached as Appendix 1 (Para 3.4). The report recommended a revised distribution of the total amount available for the Executive to give an enhanced SRA to the portfolio holder for Finance. This was to reflect the greater level of responsibility associated with that role.
- 2.2 Article 9 of the Council's Constitution states that the Executive will consist of the Leader and at least two, but not more than nine, other councillors appointed to the Executive by the Leader. Changes to the number of members of the Executive can be made by the Leader at any time.
- 2.3 The new Scheme of Members' Allowances was adopted from May 2012. The Total budget for the Executive was set at £54,693 and annual SRAs were specifically agreed as follows:

	<u>Previously</u>	<u>May 2012</u>	<u>2013</u>
The Leader of the Council:	11,821	£13,003	) Uplifted by
The Deputy Leader of the Council:	8,866	£8,220	) National
The Portfolio Holder for Finance *	4,159	£6,086	) Pay
Other Portfolio Holders	4,159	£4,564	) Award

\* 33% greater than the other Portfolio Holders

- 2.4 It was clear from the independent report that the budget for the Executive was intended to be operated as a 'pool' and distributed between members. It is also

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clear from the report that the allowances for the Leader and Deputy Leader were intended to be 'fixed'.

- 2.5 The independent report was, however, not clear about how the remaining budget (after allowing for the Leader and Deputy Leader allowance) should be split between the remaining members if the number of Executive members changed, in particular how the enhanced allowance for the finance portfolio holder should be treated.
- 2.6 Given the recent changes in the number of Executive members, the author of the independent report (Professor S Leach) was contacted and asked to clarify the position.
- 2.7 Professor Leach confirmed that it was the intention of the report (and associated recommendations) to have the Leader and Deputy Leader allowances 'fixed' (ie not affected by subsequent changes in Executive Committee membership) and that the remaining budget 'pool' should be split between the remaining Executive members in such a way that the Finance Portfolio Holder retained an enhanced allowance of 33%. In clarifying his position, the Professor also recommended that this clarification should be agreed by Full Council in the interest of transparency – hence this report.

### 3. **CONSULTATION AND CUSTOMER IMPACT**

Prior to consideration by Council on 25th April 2012, the report was also considered by the Research and Development Committee and the Executive Committee. In addition, all members were given the opportunity to express their views to the panel prior to submission of its report to the Council.

### 5. **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Any changes to the Members' Allowances Scheme will form part of the Council's Constitution.

### 6. **RECOMMENDATION**

That the clarification received by Professor Leach (as outlined in Paragraph 2.7) be noted, that the Executive SRAs are calculated on this basis and the Scheme of Members' Allowances be amended to reflect the new calculation.

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Previous Reports/Minutes:

Research and Development Committee

21.3.12 (Item A1)  
Minute: 11.RD.33

Executive Committee

4.4.12 (Item 11)  
Minute: 11.EX.106

Council:

25.4.12 (Item 7)  
Minute: 11.C.99

Background Papers

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