

Members' Allowances Scheme 2020-21

Effective from 25 September 2020

This scheme is made in accordance with the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 ("the Regulations") for 2020/2021 and subsequent years. The allowances scheme has been prepared having regard to the report of the Independent Panel on the Remuneration of Councillors in London established by London Councils on behalf of all London Councils, co-authored by Sir Rodney Brooke CBE DL (Chair), Steve Bundred and Anne Watts CBE, and published in January 2018.

1. Basic Allowance

- 1.1 The Independent Remunerator's report suggests a flat-rate basic allowance be paid to each member of the authority of £11,045 per annum to be paid in 12 monthly instalments on the 15th of each month.
- 1.2 The Council has taken into account the independent remunerator's recommendation but has decided to retain its own basic rate allowance frozen at the 2008/09 level.

The basic rate allowance for all LBHF Councillors will therefore be: £8,940 - to be paid in 12 monthly instalments on the 15th of each month. Councillors only receive an allowance for the period of their term of office in cases where it is less than the whole financial year.

	No.	Basic Allowance	Total
All Councillors	46	£8,940	£411,240

2. Special Responsibility Allowances

- 2.1 Regard has been had to the recommendations in the independent remunerator's report for differential banding in relation to the payment of special responsibility allowances (SRAs), but in line with Administration's priorities, it has been decided to freeze the Council's own scheme of SRAs at the same level approved for 2014/15 and not to follow the independent remunerator's recommendations which would have proved considerably more costly to local council taxpayers.
- 2.2 The following Special Responsibility Allowances shall therefore be paid to Councillors holding the specified offices indicated:

Position	No	SRA Entitlement	Total SRA
The Leader	1	£32,186.70	£32,186.70
Deputy Leader	1	£26,816.40	£26,816.40
Other Cabinet members	8	£21,454.20	£171,633.60
Chief Whip (where not a member of Cabinet)	1	£21,454.20	£21,454.20
Deputy Chief Whip (2)	2	£5,564.70	£11,129.40

Chair of Policy & Accountability Committees	6	£5,564.70	£33,388.20
Leader of the Opposition	1	£16,086.60	£16,086.60
Deputy Leader of the Opposition	1	£5,564.70	£5,564.70
Opposition Whip	1	£5,564.70	£5,564.70
Chair of Planning and Development Control Committees, Audit and Pensions Committee, Licensing Committee, and *Councillor Member on Adoption and Fostering Panel (4)	3*	£5,564.70	£16,694.10
The Mayor	1	£10,729.80	£10,729.80
Deputy Mayor	1	£5,564.70	£5,564.70
Assistant to the Cabinet	7	£2,700.00	£18,900.00
Total	34		£375,713.10

*This portfolio holder receives only one SRA in respect of duties undertaken.

Councillors only receive an allowance for the period of their term of office in cases where it is less than the whole financial year. A Special Responsibility Allowance would cease where the SRA entitled post ceases to exist during year.

3. Other Allowances

Dependent Carer Allowance

3.1 Dependant carer allowance is payable in respect of expenses incurred for the care of a Councillor's children or dependants in attending meetings of the authority, its Executive, Committees and Sub-Committees and in discharging the duties set out in paragraph 7 of the Regulations.

- a) £5.45 per half hour before 10 pm; £5.85 per half hour after 10 pm (not payable in respect of a member of the Councillor's household).

Travel and Subsistence

3.2 Travel allowances are payable (at the same rates as employees) for duties undertaken away from the Town Halls when discharging duties under paragraph 8 of the Regulations. There will be no payment for intra-borough travel under this scheme unless where a member requires assistance to discharge his or her duties due to ill health, disability or other circumstances approved by the Monitoring Officer. Taxis can be taken by Members who attend approved outside bodies and committee meetings out of the borough

Public Transport

Actual travel costs (second class only) will be reimbursed.

Car mileage

45 pence per mile.

Subsistence

Allowance payable at same rates and conditions as employees. Payment is only made for expenses incurred outside the Borough and is subject to a maximum of £5.00 per claim.

Sickness, maternity and paternity allowance

Where a Member is entitled to a Special Responsibility Allowance, it will continue to be paid in the case of sickness, maternity and paternity leave on the same terms as employees.

4. Annual increase

- 4.1 The allowances in this scheme apply to the financial year 2020/21. All allowances have been frozen at the 2014/15 level.

5. Election to forego allowances

- 5.1 In accordance with the provisions of regulation 13, a Councillor may, by notice in writing to the Chief Executive, elect to forego any part, or all, of his or her entitlement to an allowance under this scheme.

6. Time limit for claims

- 6.1 The majority of allowances are payable monthly, but where allowances are the subject of claims, these claims should be made in the agreed form with the appropriate declaration within six months of the duty to which they relate.

7.1 Membership of more than one authority

- 7.1 A member may not receive allowances from more than one authority (within the meaning of the regulations) in respect of the same duties.

8. Non-entitlement to more than one SRA

- 8.1 A member shall not receive more than one SRA in respect of duties undertaken with the authority. Where a Councillor is entitled to two SRAs, he or she will be paid the highest allowance.

9. Pensions

- 9.1 No Members of the Council shall be entitled to membership of the Local Government Pension Scheme in accordance with Section 7 of the Superannuation Act 1972.

10. Allowances for co-opted members and independent members of The Audit and Pensions Committee and Standards Committee

Co-optees

- 10.1 Co-opted members shall be paid £504.00 per annum by equal monthly instalments of £42.00 on the 15th of each month.

10.2 Co-opted members shall be entitled to the same travel and dependent carer allowances as Councillors, but shall not be entitled to subsistence payments.

Independent Members

10.3 The London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham shall pay an allowance to the appointed Independent Members at a flat rate allowance of £504 per annum payable by equal monthly instalments of £42.00 on the 15th of each month.