

**To: Council**

**Date: 20 July 2017**

**Report of: Acting Head of Law and Governance**

**Title of Report: Remuneration of a Non-Statutory Deputy Leader**

## **Summary and Recommendations**

**Purpose of report:** To consider the proposal to create an additional (non-statutory) Deputy Leader post and to ask the Independent Remuneration Panel to consider the level of allowance that it should attract.

**Policy Framework:** N/A

**Recommendation(s):** Council is recommended to:

1. Note the Leader's proposal to appoint one of the City Executive Board members as an additional (non- statutory) Deputy Leader; and
2. Agree to request the Acting Head of Law & Governance to form and convene a meeting of the Independent Remuneration Panel to consider the addition of a Special Responsibility Allowance in the Members' Allowance Scheme for a non-statutory Deputy Leader.

## **Summary of report**

1. The Leader has proposed to appoint an additional non-statutory Deputy Leader from within the membership of the City Executive Board (CEB). In order for a Special Responsibility Allowance to be paid to a second deputy an amendment to the Members' Allowance Scheme would be required.

## **Executive Arrangements**

2. The City Council adopted the Leader and Cabinet Executive model of leadership as established by the Local Government Act 2000 ("the Act"). The Act states that the Leader must appoint a Deputy Leader and form a cabinet with a maximum of ten members (including the Leader and Deputy Leader).

3. The Deputy Leader is appointed by the Leader and holds that office for as long as the Leader wants her or him to hold that position. If the Leader is unable to act, the Deputy Leader may carry out the Leader's statutory functions (for example - appointing or removing Board members) but does not assume the position of Leader. If the Leader ceases to be the Leader, the Deputy Leader appointment also lapses and the postholder reverts to being an ordinary member of the Board.
4. The administration has reviewed the current structure of the CEB in the light of the increasing volume and complexity of the Council's work, and the extent to which partnership working has increased the need to liaise with other public and private sector organisations. The Leader accordingly wishes to propose the appointment of a second Deputy Leader from amongst the eight CEB members. He/she will not hold a statutory role, but will work on an equal basis with the statutory Deputy Leader as part of the Council's senior political leadership team. This arrangement will also support more effective succession planning by bringing one of the Board members into close contact with the extensive range of cross portfolio strategic issues.

### **Members' Allowances Scheme**

5. The Act and the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) Regulations 2003 require that the Council must appoint and maintain an Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) to help it determine members' allowances. The Regulations require the Council to have regard to the advice of the IRP in deciding upon its members' allowances scheme. Any scheme can remain in place without review for up to four years provided the amounts contained in the scheme are indexed in some way.
6. At its meeting on 1st December 2014 the Council adopted the recommendations of the IRP in agreeing its Members' Allowances Scheme for a four year period. In order for a Special Responsibility Allowance to be paid to the new non-statutory Deputy Leader, the matter must first be considered by the IRP and the recommendations of the IRP reported to Council for a determination.
7. It is proposed that the Acting Head of Law and Governance will form an IRP and convene a meeting to consider the proposed additional Special Responsibility Allowance for the Non-Statutory Deputy Leader.

### **Financial and Legal Implications**

8. There are no financial implications arising directly from the recommendations contained in the report. A budget pressure would be created if the Members' Allowances Scheme is amended, following the recommendation of the IRP, to include the payment of a Special Responsibility allowance to the additional non-statutory Deputy Leader.
9. The Act requires that the Leader appoints a Deputy Leader. An additional non-statutory Deputy Leader would not be able to exercise any of the Leader's statutory powers in his absence. Where the power to decide on a matter or

attend a meeting is limited to the Leader of the Council, the Deputy Leader but not the non-statutory Deputy Leader may act in his absence.

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**Background papers: none**

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