

CYNGOR GWYNEDD



Report to Democratic Services Committee

Date of meeting: 18 June 2024
Title of Item: Information regarding Financial remuneration.
Contact Officer: Vera Jones, Democracy and Language Manager.

1. DECISION

The Democratic Services Committee is asked to accept the report for information.

2. What is the background and relevant considerations?

2.1 In November 2023 a report was submitted to the committee outlining the proposals by the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales for the 2024/25 financial year. The final report confirming the changes for 2024/25 was published by the Panel on 28th February, 2024. The aim of this report is to present the latest information to elected members.

The Role of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales

2.2 The Panel is responsible for setting the salary levels of Wales' Councillors, and their role is fully independent. Since its establishment, the Panel has expressed regularly and firmly that local democracy and public service governance is not cost-free, and that a value must be given to them if we are to enable everyone to participate. It is important to promote a culture that encourages individuals to receive remuneration to ensure that people from all parts of society can participate confidently in our democracy.

2.3 In addition, the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 makes it a requirement for the Panel to consider the financial implications of its decisions. The Panel has had to seek to balance both elements in parallel every year as it makes its decisions.

Remuneration for Elected Members.

2.4 The table below shows the details of Group B payments for 2024-25.

	remuneration payment for 2024/25	Remuneration Payment for 2023/24
Basic salary (payable to every elected member)	£18,666	£17,600
Band 1: leader	£62,998	£59,400
Band 1: Deputy leader	£44,099	£41,580
Band 2: executive members	£37,799	£35,640
Band 3: committee chairs (if they receive a recognition payment)	£27,999	£26,400
Band 4: the leader of the largest opposition party	£27,999	£26,400
Band 5: leaders of other political groups	£22,406	£21,340

2.5 The level set for the Civic Head is £27,999, and £22,406 for the Deputy Civic Head.

2.6 Note that it is a responsibility on the Authority to pay the level noted, however should an Elected Member decide that they do not wish to receive their salary or a proportion of their salary, they will need to write individually to the Head of Democratic Services.

Communication

2.7 Following receiving a number of enquiries from Elected Members about salary levels it was decided to report the information to the Democratic Services Committee and ask the members to share the information with other members. Information has already been provided through the medium of the Members Bulletin and on the Members intranet and we again encourage all members to utilise this important resource.

2.8 Examples of the information provided can be seen in Appendix A and B.