## **Members' Allowances**

# Report by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services

### 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Independent Remuneration Panel in their review of the Members' Allowances Scheme in 2010 recommended 'that Basic and Special Responsibility Allowances should be adjusted annually with effect from the date of the Annual Council Meeting commencing in 2012 to reflect any increase in inflation using as an automatic index mechanism the percentage change for spinal column point 33 approved by the National Joint Council for Local Government Staff services and negotiated as the pay award for Local Government employees.'
- 1.2 Such mechanism should be applied until 30th April 2015 or until such time as the Independent Remuneration Panel recommends otherwise.
- 1.3 This recommendation was approved by the Council at their meeting held on 15th December 2010.

### 2. 2012/13 NJC PAY AWARD

- 2.1 Having considered a claim from the National Joint Council Trade Unions (the Employees), the NJC for Local Government Services (the Employers' Side) have decided that they will not offer a pay award in 2012/13. Subsequently, the National Employers also have indicated that they are unwilling to refer the matter to arbitration.
- 2.2 The National Employers have invited the NJC Trade Unions to commence discussions immediately on a range of related issues including pay, terms and conditions and reform of the national negotiating machinery with a view to reaching agreement for implementation on 1st April 2013.

### 3. **CONCLUSION**

3.1 In view of the decision of the NJC for Local Government Staff Services not to offer local government employees a pay award in 2012 and given that this is the mechanism used to adjust Member Allowances annually, the Council is formally requested to note that there will be no increase in Members' Allowances with effect from 16th May 2012 ie. the date of the Annual Council Meeting.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS
District Council Constitution 2012
Letters from the Local Government Association dated 23rd and 28th
February 2012.