

CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL	<h1>Standards Committee</h1> <h2>Minutes - 19 January 2018</h2>
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Attendance

Members of the Standards Committee

Cllr Ian Brookfield
Cllr Val Evans
Cllr Andrew Wynne
Ray Tomkinson

Employees

Kevin O'Keefe	Director of Governance
Jaswinder Kaur	Democratic Services Manager

Item No. Title

- 1 **Apologies for absence**
Apologies for absence were received from the Chair Councillor Elias Mattu and Councillor Martin Waite.

Councillor Ian Brookfield proposed and Councillor Val Evans seconded that Councillor Andrew Wynne be appointed to Chair the meeting.

Resolved:

That Councillor Andrew Wynne be appointed to Chair the meeting.

- 2 **Declarations of interest**
The following Councillors declared the interests detailed below in respect of agenda item 3, minutes of the previous meeting:

Councillor	Interest	Reason
Ian Brookfield	Disclosable pecuniary interest	Item 6 in the minutes relates Councillor Ian Brookfield.
Val Evans	Disclosable pecuniary interest	Item 6 in the minutes relates to spouse.
Andrew Wynne	Disclosable non-pecuniary interest	Present at meeting.

3 **Minutes of previous meeting**

Having declared a pecuniary interest Councillors Ian Brookfield and Val Evans left the meeting room and took no part in the consideration of this item.

Resolved:

That the minutes of the previous meeting held on the 1 November 2017 be agreed as a correct record.

4 **Matters arising**

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

5 **Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel**

Kevin O'Keefe, Director of Governance presented the report of the Independent Remuneration Panel on the review of Councillor's Allowances. He advised the Panel consisted of three members and had met in January 2018. The Panel had made six recommendations to the Council.

The Director of Governance, advised the Panel had used a range of sources of evidence and in particular considered the allowances paid to Councillors of the Black Country, West Midlands Metropolitan Councils and fifteen similar sized councils in this Councils CiPFA family group.

Ray Tomkinson, Independent Member, added the approach taken by the Independent Remuneration Panel was reasonable and sensible. He was very supportive of the paper.

Resolved:

1. Council be recommended to:

- a) Consider the report of the Independent Remuneration Panel and approve, reject or approve alternative proposals for each of the following recommendations made by the Panel:

Recommendation 1: That for the municipal years 2018/19 – 2021/22 the Basic Allowance be increased each year by any percentage increase in pay agreed for local government employees.

Recommendation 2: That no change should be made to the current Special Responsibility Allowances.

Recommendation 3: That no change should be made to the current Dependant Carers' Allowance.

Recommendation 4: That no change should be made to the current Travelling and Subsistence Allowances

Recommendation 5: That no change be made to the current Co-optees Allowances.

- b) The section on Membership of the Local Government Pension Scheme be removed from the Councillor Allowances scheme.
- c) Delegate authority to the Monitoring Officer to amend the Scheme of Councillor Allowances according to the decisions taken by Council for inclusion in the Council's Constitution.