

9.4 Independent Remuneration Panel

9.4.1 Introduction

- (a) Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 ("the 2003 Regulations") require councils to establish and maintain an independent remuneration panel.
- (b) The purpose of this panel is to make recommendations to the authority about the allowances to be paid to elected Councillors.
- (c) The 2003 Regulations provide for independent remuneration panels to have the following functions:
 - To make recommendations to the authority as to the amount of basic allowance which should be payable to its elected Councillors.
 - To make recommendations to the authority about the roles and responsibilities for which a special responsibility allowance should be payable and as to the amount of each such allowance.
 - To make recommendations as to whether the authority's allowances scheme should include an allowance in respect of the expenses of arranging for the care of children and dependants and if it does make such a recommendation, the amount of this allowance and the means by which it is determined.
 - To make recommendations as to the responsibilities or duties in respect of which a travelling and subsistence allowance should be available and the amount of such an allowance.

9.4.2 Membership

3 independent members. Elected Councillors cannot be members of the panel.

9.4.3 Quorum

3

9.4.4 Terms of Reference

- (a) To make recommendations to the Council on matters relating to Councillors' Allowances
- (b) To make recommendations to Leigh-on-Sea Town Council on its Councillors' Allowances Scheme, if that Council so requires.

9.4.5 Reports of the Panel

The Council must have regard to the recommendations made to it by the Independent Remuneration Panel when making or amending its Councillors' Allowances Scheme.