

Report of Administration & Democratic Services Manager and Deputy Monitoring Officer

Subject: **Member Remuneration 2023/24**

Purpose of Report

To inform Members of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales' decisions in relation to the Basic and Senior Salaries payable to National Park Authority Members for the financial year 2023/24.

Introduction/Background

The Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales (the Panel) was appointed in January 2008 by the (then) Welsh Assembly Government Minister for Social Justice and Local Government under the provisions of *The Local Authorities (Allowances for Members) (Wales) Regulations 2007*. Following the passing of the Local Government (Wales) Measure on 10 May 2011, the Panel's remit and powers were extended to include National Park Authorities, Fire and Rescue Authorities and 'civic heads' in local authorities. Not only that, the Measure extended the Panel's powers to enable it to prescribe payments rather than determine the maxima as it had done in the past.

The Panel published a draft Annual Report last autumn, which was considered by the Authority at its meeting held on 26 October 2022. The [final Annual Report](#) was published on 27 February 2023.

Panel determinations

In summary, the main changes to Members' remuneration for the financial year 2023/24 are:

- (i) that the Basic Salary for "ordinary Members" is increased by £226 to £4,964 per annum;
- (ii) that the Senior Salary payable to the Chair of the Authority is increased by £233 to £13,764 per annum, and
- (iii) that the Senior Salary payable to the Deputy Chair of the Authority and Committee Chairs is increased by £226 to £8,704.

No changes have been made to the level of payment made to Independent Members of the Standards Committee, nor to travel and subsistence rates and to contributions towards costs of care and personal assistance.

The Annual Report also reiterates the following facts:

- (i) that a Senior Salary is paid **inclusive** of the Basic Salary;
- (ii) that there is a restriction on receiving double remuneration where a Member holds more than one post.

The new salary framework will come into effect on 01 April 2023.

Senior Salary remuneration

Three Senior Salaries are currently paid by the Authority; to the posts of Chair and Deputy Chair of the Authority, together with the Chair of the Development Management Committee. As reported in previous years, the restriction on the number of Senior Salaries that could be paid has now been removed.

Financial considerations

Member Salaries have been provided for in the budget.

Compliance

The Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales has prescribed the levels of Basic and Senior Salaries referred to in the report; the Authority cannot vary these levels.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Members are requested:

- 1. To note the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales' Annual Report for 2023/24, and**
- 2. To determine which post(s) should be remunerated with a Senior Salary.**

Background Documents

Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales Annual Report: February 2023
Report to National Park Authority: 26 October 2022

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