

WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

Confirmation of Councillor Allowances

- 1.1 Councillor allowances are established to encourage and enable members of the public to stand for public office with the benefit of an allowance that assists with the costs of the role such as telephone, travel, printing, childcare etc. Parish Councils set their own allowance. It is common for the Councillor who is appointed as Chair to receive a higher allowance.
- 1.2 The Full Council meeting of 29 November 2021, considered the Swindon Borough Council Independent Remuneration Panel report. The Panel used a formula (based on a percentage of the Borough Council's Basic Allowance and electorate populations) to create a single recommendation in the form of a scale of allowances that could be applied to all parish and town councils in the Borough. The Independent Panel Recommendation for West Swindon Parish reported at the meeting was as follows

Parish	Electors (July 2021)	Parish Electorate Band	% of SBC Allowance per band	Parish Cllr Allowance	Parish Chair Allowance
West Swindon	19,653	17,500-20,000	20%	£1,757	£5,272

- 1.3 At the meeting of 29 November 2021, the Councillor allowances were discussed and set at £500 for a Councillor and £1500 for the Chair for the municipal year 2022-23. The budget amount of £8,000 was carried forward into the financial year 2022-23 and 2023-24.

2. Financial Considerations

- 2.1 The budget allocation for Councillor Allowances is currently £8000. Whilst generally not all Councillors choose to claim an allowance, the budget for the year should be sufficient to allow for Councillors to claim if they so choose. Claim forms have been received from seven Councillors to date.

3. Recommendation:

- 3.1 That Council considers the information and confirms the individual allowance amount for Councillors and the Chair for 2023-24, to be paid quarterly in arrears in July, October, January and April.

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