

By: Clerk to the Authority

To: Kent and Medway Fire and Rescue Authority – 13 February  
2013

Subject: MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME 2013/14

Classification: Unrestricted

## **FOR DECISION**

### **SUMMARY**

This report proposes a Members' Allowances Scheme for 2013/14 (with allowances unchanged from 2012/13) for formal adoption.

.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Members are requested to:

1. Formally adopt a new Members' Allowances Scheme for 2013/14 (para 2 and **Appendix 1** refer).

LEAD/CONTACT OFFICER: Clerk to the Authority - Stuart Ballard  
TELEPHONE NUMBER: 01622 692121 x8206  
EMAIL: [stuart.ballard@kent.fire-uk.org](mailto:stuart.ballard@kent.fire-uk.org)  
BACKGROUND PAPERS: None

## COMMENTS

### Background

1. It is a requirement of The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 that every local authority must formally adopt a new Members' Allowances Scheme each year.

### Members' Allowances Scheme 2013/14

2. No changes to the existing scheme are proposed for 2013/14, except for:-
  - (a) deletion of the allowances relating to the Chairman and independent members of the Standards Committee, as a result of the abolition of that Committee with effect from 1 July 2012; and
  - (b) deletion of old General Note (3) which provided that allowances could be withheld where a Member was suspended from membership of the Authority for a breach of the Code of Conduct. The new Code of Conduct (adopted with effect from 1 July 2012) does not allow for the suspension of Members.

However, in order to meet the requirements of the Regulations, the Authority does need to formally adopt a new Members' Allowances Scheme for 2013/14 and this is attached for Members' approval at **Appendix 1**.

### Full Review of Scheme

3. Full reviews of the Authority's Members' Allowances Scheme are normally carried out every four years. As the last full review was undertaken in mid- 2009, a full review is due be undertaken later in 2013 with a view to the new Scheme taking effect for 2014/15. A report proposing arrangements for the full review will be brought to a future meeting.

### IMPACT ASSESSMENT

4. The resource implications are minimal and have been taken into account in the proposals for the Authority's budget for 2013/14.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

5. Members are requested to:
  - 5.1 Formally adopt a new Members' Allowances Scheme for 2013/14 (para 2 and **Appendix 1** refer).