

By: Director of Governance and Law

To: Selection and Member Services Committee – 25 April 2014

Subject: MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES AND EXPENSES 2013/14

Status: Unrestricted

Summary: The Committee is invited to note and approve for publication the annual return for Members' allowances and expenses, together with details of the costs of the County Car service and taxis for Members for 2013/14.

FOR INFORMATION

Introduction

1. In accordance paragraph 15 of The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003, Kent County Council is required to publish annually the allowances paid to Members, which includes the Basic, Special Responsibility, Travelling and Subsistence, Dependent Carers and Co-optees Allowances. The Committee will also be aware of the legal requirement for the County Council to have a Member Remuneration Panel to advise the Council on the level of allowances and expenses Members should receive..

Details for 2013/14

2. The schedule of Members' Allowances and Expenses for the period 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014 is attached as **Appendix A**. The total cost of all allowances and expenses for Members in 2013/14 is £1,697,772 which represents a 5% reduction in total costs compared to 2012/13 of £1,784,219

3. At its meeting on 13 July 2011, this Committee agreed that the costs incurred by Members using the County Cars and taxis that were booked directly by KCC should also be reported on an annual basis. The total net cost of the County Car service in 2013/14 was £41,258, compared to £51,585 in 2012/13, as detailed in **Appendix B**.

Recommendation:

4. The Committee is requested to note this report and agree to the publication of the allowances and expenses for 2013/14 as detailed in **Appendix A** as required by the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003.

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Background Information: Members' Expenses records for 2013/14 held by Kent County Council.

