

CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE – 26 SEPTEMBER, 2001

MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES 2000/2001

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Purpose

1. The purpose of this report is to inform the Committee of the action taken to publicise the level of payments on members' allowances for 2000/2001.

Background

2. Under the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (Amendment) Regulations 1995 the County Council is required to publish details of its allowances scheme and payments made under it "as soon as reasonably practicable after the end of the year." It has been our practice to publish the schedule of payments with the minutes of the relevant committee (previously the Appointments and Members' Services Subcommittee – now the Constitution Committee). Copies of the schedule are normally circulated mid June – first to relevant members (and former members) of the Council and a few days later to the media.
3. The publication of the information this year was delayed by the postponement of the County Council elections. To avoid further delay, following consultation with the Group Leaders, I agreed to circulate the details to members and the media, rather than delay matters until the Constitution Committee was able to meet to approve publication. A letter was therefore sent to elected members with the attached schedule on the 11th July, and details were sent to the media on 13th July.

Recommendations

4. That the action taken by the Chief Executive to publicise the level of payments on members' allowances in 2000/01 be noted and that the details be published with the minutes of this meeting in accordance with the provisions of the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (Amendment) Regulations 1995.

Circulation under Sensitive Issues Procedure.

None.

Background Papers

None.

Officer to Contact

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