

Copeland Borough Council

Independent Remuneration Panel 2006/2011

Terms of Reference

- 1 To report to the Copeland Borough Council by not later than 31 December 2006 with recommendations in respect of the financial years 2007/2008 to 2010/2011:-
 - (a) as to the amount of basic allowance to be paid to all elected Members of the Council;
 - (b) as to the responsibilities or duties of Members of the Council in respect of which the following should be available –
 - (i) special responsibility allowance
 - (ii) travelling and subsistence allowance; and
 - (iii) co-optees' allowance, including Independent and Parish Members of the Standards Committee, and such other co-opted Members as the Council may from time to time determine
 - (c) as to the amount of such allowances;
 - (d) as to whether dependants' carers' allowance should be payable to members, and as to the amount of such an allowance, and the means by which it is determined;
 - (e) as to whether, in the event that the scheme is amended at any time so as to affect an allowance payable for the year in which the amendment is made, payment of allowances may be backdated;
 - (f) as to whether adjustments to the level of allowances may be determined according to an index and if so which index and how long that index should apply, subject to a maximum of four years, before its application is reviewed;
 - (g) as to which members of an authority are to be entitled to pensions in accordance with a scheme made under section 7 of the Superannuation Act 1972;
 - (h) as to treating basic allowance or special responsibility allowance, or both, as amounts in respect of which such pensions are payable in accordance with a scheme made under section 7 of the Superannuation Act 1972;

- (i) as to whether, in the event of a Member of the Council being suspended or partially suspended from membership of the Council, the payment of allowances should be withheld for the duration of the suspension, and whether the amounts of any allowances already paid in respect of such period should be repaid.

- 2 To report to the Copeland Borough Council by not later than 1 April 2006 on whether the matters listed in paragraph 1 (a) to (i) above should be amended for the financial year 2006/2007.

- 3 When requested by a council of a town or parish in the Borough of Copeland to make recommendations to the council of that town or parish on:
 - (a) the amount of parish basic allowance payable to members of such parish council;
 - (b) the amount of travelling and subsistence allowance payable to members of such parish council;
 - (c) whether parish basic allowance should be payable only to the chairman of such parish council or to all of its members.
 - (d) whether, if parish basic allowance should be payable to both the chairman and the other members of any such parish council, the allowance payable to the chairman should be set at a higher level than that payable to the other members and, if so, the higher amount so payable; and
 - (e) the responsibilities or duties in respect of which members should receive parish travelling and subsistence allowance.