

## Members Allowance Scheme 2014-2018

The London Borough of Croydon hereby gives notice in accordance with Regulations 16 and 22 of the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 (No 1021) of the following matters relating to the Members' Allowance Scheme.

The Scheme was implemented from 4 June 2014 and has effect until May 2018. The Scheme provides for a Basic Allowance payable to all Members, and an annual Special Responsibility Allowance (paid in addition to Basic Allowance) to those holding positions with special responsibilities.

On 21 May 2015 the Scheme was considered by Members and AMENDED. Paragraph 4 is amended to read:

"The level of Basic Allowance, Special Responsibility Allowances, Mayor's and Deputy Mayor's Allowances shall not be subject to automatic annual adjustment however Members may review this aspect no more frequently than annually to determine whether there will be an adjustment for the upcoming Council year."

No other amendments were made to the Scheme as adopted by full Council and implemented from 4 June 2014.

The main features of the Council's current Scheme are set out below:

### **Councillors' Basic and Special Responsibility Allowances June 2014 – May 2018**

	<b>£ p.a</b>
<b>Basic Allowance</b>	11,239
<b>Mayor's Allowance</b>	19,103
<b>Deputy Mayor's Allowance</b>	9,552
<b>Special Responsibility Allowances</b>	
Leader of the Council	41,984
Deputy Leader(statutory)	35,246
Deputy Leader	34,605
Cabinet Members	32,100
Deputy Cabinet Members	10,132
Chair of Scrutiny & Overview Committee	24,105
Scrutiny Deputy Chair & Vice Chair(s)	10,522
Majority Group Secretary	10,132
Chief Whip (Majority Group)	14,747
Chair of General Purposes and Audit Committee	10,106
Chair of Health & Wellbeing Board	12,507
Chair of Licensing Committee	10,106
Chair of Planning Committee	12,507

Chair of Adoption Panel	8,852
Chair of Pension Committee	8,852

### **Largest Minority Group**

Leader of the Opposition	21,574
Deputy Leader(s)	9,036
Shadow Cabinet Members	6,747
Chief Whip (Minority Group)	6,747
Group Secretary	6,747

By decision of the Council, Members are not entitled to apply for inclusion in the Local Government Pension Scheme.

Councillors may claim travel and subsistence allowances for a range of out-of-Borough approved duties clearly specified in the Scheme.

The rates applicable for travel and subsistence claims are as follows:

The rate for travel by a Member's private motor vehicle shall not exceed the following rates:

- [i] motorcycle, tricar or motor car of cylinder capacity 500cc 25.9p per mile
- [ii] not exceeding 999cc 34.6p per mile
- [iii] 1000cc - 1199cc 39.5p per mile
- [iv] 1200cc and above 48.5p per mile
- [v] For the carriage of each additional Member of the Council (not exceeding four): 3p per mile for the first passenger and 2p per mile for second and subsequent passengers.
- [vi] Expenditure on tolls, ferries, parking fees.
- [vii] Reimbursement of overnight parking charges.

The rate for travel by a Member's private bicycle shall not exceed 24p per mile.

### **Subsistence**

Breakfast £4.92, Lunch £6.77, Tea £2.67, Evening Meal £8.38, Overnight subsistence £79.82, or £91.04 (For Inner London or Annual LGA Conference)  
 Dependent's Carers' Allowance - An allowance of £8.80 per hour whilst undertaking approved duties for care of dependent relatives and children.

In adopting the Scheme, the Council had regard to the London Councils Independent Remuneration Panel's report (IRP report), "The Remuneration of Councillors in London" published in June 2014. This report can be found at <http://www.londoncouncils.gov.uk/who-we-are/about-us/financial-information/leadership-and-expenses/remuneration-councillors-london>

## **Main Features of the IRP report:**

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- Allowances should be set at a level that enables people to undertake the role of councillor while not acting as an incentive to do so. Allowances are not shown by polls to be something which influences councillors to take on the role, though they are instrumental in making it possible for some people to do so. If it is important that there are no financial incentives to being a councillor, it is equally important that there should not be a financial disincentive.’
- It is clearly desirable that service as a councillor is not confined to those with independent means. But we do repeat our belief in the importance of local democracy and the role of councillors within it. Each London Borough is responsible for services crucial to its residents. Each is responsible for a revenue budget of between £1.3bn and £3.3bn.
- The responsibilities placed on local authorities continue to increase. The Localism Act 2011 devolved services to the boroughs, though, it was complained, without the resources to discharge them. From April 2013 London boroughs assumed the major new responsibility for health and wellbeing. Financial austerity brings substantial and further challenges to councillors: local authorities are required to make substantial cuts in their spending. Changes to the welfare system (particularly acute in London) give residual discretionary powers to local authorities. Councillors are faced with unenviable choices. Demand for local authority services continues to grow. In particular, there is exponential growth in the number of old people and a corresponding increase in demand for social care. The strain on and competition for resources increase the demands made on elected members.”

## **The recommended amounts relevant to Croydon**

The IRP has recommended that;

1. The remuneration package of a Council Leader under Band 4 should be £65,472 (including basic allowance);
2. In addition to the basic allowance the following should be entitled to a Band 3 allowance on a scale £35,128 to £41,675
  - a. Cabinet Member
  - b. Chair of Scrutiny and Overview Committee
  - c. Deputy Leader of the Council
3. In addition to the basic allowance the following should be entitled to a Band 2 allowance on a scale of £15,486 to £28,581
  - a. Chairs of Planning
  - b. Chair of Licensing
  - c. Mayor (Civic)
  - d. Leader of the Opposition
  - e. Majority Party Chief Whip
4. In addition to a basic allowance the following should be entitled to a Band 1 allowance on a scale from £2,392 to £8,941

- a. Shadow Cabinet Members
- b. Opposition Group Whip
- c. Group Secretary (Majority Party)
- d. Adoption Panel Members
- e. Deputy Cabinet Members
- f. Deputy Mayor

Copies of the Scheme and the IRP report are available for inspection at all reasonable hours at Access Croydon, Bernard Weatherill House, Mint Walk, Croydon or via the Council's Website [www.croydon.gov.uk](http://www.croydon.gov.uk). [Council July 2014](#)

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