

AGENDA ITEM:

REPORT TO:	MERSEYSIDE FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY ANNUAL MEETING
DATE:	16TH JUNE, 2011
REPORT NO.	CFO/055/11
REPORTING OFFICER:	CLERK TO THE AUTHORITY/MONITORING OFFICER
CONTACT OFFICER:	HELEN PEEK, MEMBER LIAISON SUPPORT MANAGER, EXTN. 4112
OFFICERS CONSULTED:	
SUBJECT:	MEMBERS' ALLOWANCE PAYMENTS 2010/11

**APPENDIX A TITLE MEMBERS' ALLOWANCE PAYMENTS
2010/11 – EXCLUDING REIMBURSEMENTS**

**APPENDIX B TITLE MEMBERS' ALLOWANCE PAYMENTS
2010/11 - INCLUDING REIMBURSEMENTS**

ATTACHED – HARD COPY

Purpose of Report

1. To advise the Authority of payments made to Members in respect of allowances during the financial year 2010/11.

Recommendation

2. That the information contained in the report and at Appendices A and B be noted.

Introduction & Background

Information

3. Regulation 15 of the Local Authorities (Members Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 requires that the total sums paid to each Member for Basic, Special Responsibility, Travel, Subsistence and Co-optees Allowance be published. Therefore the attached appendix details the amount of such allowances paid during the 2010/11 financial year.

4. For clarity Appendix A sets out Allowance Payments made during 2010/11 excluding any claims for reimbursement made via submission of forms under the Members Scheme of Allowances. These are total Basic and total Special Responsibility Allowances (SRA) - which are payments to Members reflecting their role as a Merseyside Fire & Rescue Authority Member eg Committees they Chair, Sponsor roles they have held and Boards they are appointed to, as apposed to including reimbursements for money spent and claimed back.
5. Appendix B also details other categories including total Mileage, total Overnight, and total Travel & Subsistence Allowances which have been claimed back by each Member. It is important to note that these are reimbursements rather than payments made.

Equality & Diversity Implications

6. None arising out of the report.

Financial Implications & Value for Money

7. None arising out of the report. The rates of allowances are determined by the Authority from time to time taking into account the recommendations of the Standards Committee. The total cost of Members allowance payments was £267K. This is approximately 0.4% of the Authority budget.

Health & Safety and Environmental Implications

8. Members of the Authority are asked to use the most efficient method of transport when travelling on Authority business.

Contribution to Achieving Our Purpose:

"To Make Merseyside a Safer, Stronger, Healthier Community"

9. Members of the Authority and Co-optees are provided with basic allowances to cover costs of time, travel, subsistence and responsibility - enabling Members the opportunity and ability to attend events and represent the Fire Authority in making decisions for the benefit of the community.