

MERSEYSIDE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY			
MEETING OF THE:	AUTHORITY (ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING)		
DATE:	11 JUNE 2026	REPORT NO:	MO/06/2627
PRESENTING OFFICER	MONITORING OFFICER, RIA GROVES		
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	MONITORING OFFICER, RIA GROVES	REPORT AUTHOR:	MONITORING OFFICER, RIA GROVES, LEGAL & DEMOCRATIC SERVICES OFFICER, ALLY KIRBY
OFFICERS CONSULTED:	STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP TEAM (SLT), ALISON SHANNON, CHLOE REDMOND		
TITLE OF REPORT:	SCHEME OF MEMBERS ALLOWANCE 2026/27		

APPENDICES:	APPENDIX A: SCHEME OF ALLOWANCES
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Purpose of Report

1. To request that Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority ('the Authority') reviews the Scheme of Members' Allowances for approval .

Recommendation

2. It is recommended that Members;
 - a) approve the Members' Allowances Scheme 2026/27 as contained in appendix A; and
 - b) note the Members Scheme of Allowance includes a pay increase to the Scheme of Members Allowances in line with the Firefighters Pay Award for 2025/26 which would apply to the 2026/27 allowances and any inflationary increase to the Authority's Scheme of Members' Travel and Subsistence Allowances is aligned with CPI for the previous year's March CPI;

Introduction and Background

3. The Authority's draft Scheme of Members' Allowances for 2026/27 is attached at Appendix A.
4. The Scheme of Allowance for 2026/27 includes a pay increase to the Scheme of Members allowances in line with the Firefighters Pay Award for 2025/26 which would apply to the 2026/27 allowances.

5. The Authority have previously agreed that Members entitled to a Special Responsibility Allowance ('SRA'), would only be entitled to receive one SRA payment, even if Members had more than one additional responsibility which would attract an SRA.
6. It is recommended that the SRA payment for Opposition Spokesperson continues to only be paid to one Opposition Member at any given time.
7. It is proposed within the Scheme of Allowance the role of Co-opted Member (subject to approval of the structure) to be paid for conducting such role following submission and verification of invoices at a daily attendance rate of £60 (as and when required) as is the current case. It is recommended that this would also apply to any payment made to an Independent Person appointed by the Authority to deal with Member complaints or a Relevant Officer Disciplinary process.
8. Inflationary increase to the Authority's Scheme of Members' Travel and Subsistence Allowances has been aligned with CPI for the previous year's March CPI rate.
9. The full breakdown of the proposed Scheme of Allowances is contained in Appendix A of this report.

Equality and Diversity Implications

10. All Members are entitled to the same basic allowance and SRAs are paid to Members for performing approved special responsibilities by reference to proportions of basic allowance.

Staff Implications

11. This report relates to Members' allowances and as such, there are no staff implications to consider.

Legal Implications

12. The Local Government Act 1972 and the Members Allowances (England) Regulations 2003, provide that a Scheme of Allowances is required and reviewed every year.

Financial Implications & Value for Money

13. The costs for the scheme of Members Allowances can be met within existing budgets.

Risk Management and Health & Safety Implications

14. There are no risk management or health and safety implications arising directly from this report.

Environmental Implications

15. There are no environmental implications arising directly from this report.

Contribution to Our Vision: *To be the best Fire & Rescue Service in the UK.*

Our Purpose: *Here to serve, Here to protect, Here to keep you safe.*

16. The requirement of a scheme of allowance and publishing the same create a greater level of scrutiny and transparency to the community in which the Authority serves and represents.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

NONE

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

SRA **S**pecial **R**esponsibility **A**llowance