

Chorley Council amended their Members' Allowances Scheme on 16 July with further amendments made on 17 September 2013. The dates the changes are effective from are set out next to the relevant figures. The amendments were approved by an Independent Remuneration Panel.

The Members' Allowances scheme provides for a basic allowance and allowances for special responsibilities to be paid to elected Councillors.

The following elements of the scheme remain unchanged: basic allowance £4284.56, Executive Leader of the Council £12928.88, Leader of Opposition £6635.76, Leader of a Small Group £933.39, Deputy Leader of a Large Group £1866.78, Deputy Executive Leader £4003.15, Executive Member for any one or more specified portfolios £4284.56, Chair of the Development Control Committee £2900.06, Chair of the Licensing and Safety Committee £2900.06, Vice-Chair of the Development Control Committee £1428.54, Vice-Chair of the Licensing and Safety Committee £1428.54, Chair of the Governance Committee £1713.18, Chair of the Equalities Forum (not to be paid where this post is held by an Executive Member) 1428.54, Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee £4284.56, Vice-Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee £1428.54, Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Task Groups 314.44.

The following allowances are changes to the current scheme.

Special Responsibility positions	Previous Annual Amount of Allowance £	Revised amount	Changes are effective from
Lead Members (renamed as Portfolio Champions)	£1414.40	£714.27	16 July 2013
Independent Member of Governance Committee	£0	£500.00	16 July 2013
Vice Chair of Governance Committee	£0	£50 (per half day), only applicable when chairing the meeting due to the absence of the Chair.	17 September 2013

Other approved recommendations:

Members start using the electronic claim system (rather than the paper based system) in line with staff from 1 November 2013 and in doing so, the scheme be revised to include a provision for the shortest journey route to be claimed.

The approved duties list be revised so that Members may claim travel for those meetings where they are appointed as a formal member; where they are attending as a nominated substitute member; or are attending Executive Cabinet. All other meetings, whether acting as an observer or speaking as a ward Councillor, to be outside the scheme and therefore not eligible for travel expenses.

The report of the Independent Remuneration Panel containing these recommendations along with the full Members' Allowances scheme can be found at www.chorley.gov.uk, telephone 01257 515118 if you require a hard copy or call into the Civic Offices, Union Street, Chorley, PR7 1AL from 8.45am until 5pm.