

Resources Department
7 Newington Barrow Way, London N7 7EP

Report of: Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer

Meeting of: Council

Date: 30 June 2022

Ward(s): N/A

Subject: Constitution Update

1. Synopsis

- 1.1. This report proposes an amendment to the Council's Constitution to ensure it reflects changes in legislation and council policy and remains fit for purpose.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. To approve the amendment to the Constitution as set out in the report.

3. Background

- 3.1. An amendment to the Constitution is set out below. This is to update the rate paid for Dependent Carers' Allowance to reflect the latest increase in London Living Wage. Amendments are marked by crossing through in the case of deletions and by underlining in the case of additions.

- 3.2. Amendment to Part 7 - Members' Allowances Scheme

(d) Dependent Carers' Allowance

A Dependent Carers' Allowance is payable to Councillors who, in order to undertake their duties as a Councillor, incur costs in arranging care for dependent relatives living with them. Dependent relatives are defined as children under the age of 15, elderly, disabled or unwell relatives who cannot be left alone (either

temporarily or permanently). Payments will not normally be made to carers who are family members or persons resident at the Councillor's home. The Carers' Allowance also includes costs associated with Councillors who themselves need the help of a carer in order for them to fulfil their duties as a Councillor. The maximum rate for this allowance is ~~£10.75~~ £11.05 per hour, based on the Living Wage Foundation's 'real living wage', to meet, or contribute towards the actual costs incurred in arranging care. The maximum period from which any one claim can be made is the duration of the meeting itself, plus ~~£10.75~~ £11.05 as a contribution towards travelling time to and from the meeting venue.

4. Implications

4.1. Financial Implications

4.1.1. There are no direct material financial implications associated with the amendments to the Constitution as set out in this report. All costs associated with an increase in the allowances paid will be met from existing budgets.

4.2. Legal Implications

4.2.1. The Council must keep its Constitution up to date (section 9P Local Government Act 2000).

4.3. Environmental Implications and contribution to achieving a net zero carbon Islington by 2030

4.3.1. There are no direct environmental implications resulting as a result of this report.

4.4. Equalities Impact Assessment

4.4.1. The council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and to advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations, between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it (section 149 Equality Act 2010). The council has a duty to have due regard to the need to remove or minimise disadvantages, take steps to meet needs, in particular steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities, and encourage people to participate in public life. The council must have due regard to the need to tackle prejudice and promote understanding.

4.4.2. An Equalities Impact Assessment is not required in relation to this report, because there are no direct impacts on residents.

5. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

- 5.1. This report proposes an amendment to the Constitution to ensure that the document remains up to date and fit for purpose.

Appendices: None

Background papers: None

Final report clearance:

Signed by:

Director of Law and Governance and Monitoring Officer

Date:

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