

MEMBERS' ALLOWANCE SCHEME – 2009/10

Basic Allowance £5,852 per annum
(Applicable to members who are not in receipt of a Special Responsibility Allowance)

Special Responsibility Allowances (SRAs):

Chairman of the Authority £28,090 per annum
(4 x basic allowance plus 20% uplift)

Vice-Chairman of the Authority £12,874 per annum
(2 x basic allowance plus 10% uplift)

Chairman of the Audit, Resources and Continuous Improvement Committee £10,241 per annum
(1.75 x basic allowance)

Chairman of the Community Engagement and Communications Committee £8,778 per annum
(1.5 x basic allowance)

Chairman of the Human Resources Committee £8,778 per annum
(1.5 x basic allowance)

Chairman of the Professional Standards and Diversity Committee £8,778 per annum
(1.5 x basic allowance)

1. The cost of Members' Allowances in a full year would be £141,218. Provision has been made in this year's budget to meet the proposed costs.
2. The rates of the Basic Allowance and the Special Responsibility Allowances (SRAs) and the underlying methodology for these rates are consistent with the recommendations of the National Independent Panel on Members' Allowances which reported in October 2008. Special Responsibility Allowances are based on a multiple of the Basic Allowance to reflect the higher time commitment involved. The methodology anticipates average hours for the various roles as follows:
 - Basic Allowance approximately 5 to 7 hours per week
 - SRA Chair of Police Authority at least 30 hours per week
 - SRA Vice-Chair of Police Authority at least 15 hours per week
 - SRA Chair of ARCIC at least 12½ hours per week
 - SRA Committee Chairs at least 10 hours per week
3. In the case of the roles of Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Police Authority, an uplift applies as recommended by the Independent Panel. For transparency, a Special Responsibility Allowance is payable instead of the Basic Allowance and only one special responsibility payment is payable regardless of the potential for multiple roles to be undertaken.
4. Annual uprating is applied to relevant allowances in line with annual pay awards for police staff as recommended by the Independent Panel.
5. If any member has responsibilities as a carer or for dependants, they may claim the Dependant Carers' Allowance of £8.20 per hour. This enables members to claim reimbursement of actual expenditure incurred up to that maximum hourly rate but excludes a member of the claimant's household or close relative. The rate is uprated annually on the basis set out above.
6. If any member, through ill health, is not able to attend meetings of the Authority, the payment of allowances should continue for a period of three months but if the period extends beyond that the situation should be discussed between the Chairman and the member and a recommendation made to the Authority.
7. If a member is suspended for any reason, they should not receive any allowance for the period of the suspension. However, if the member is exonerated, they should be paid the allowances which they would have received had they not been suspended.
8. The daily rate for Independent Members on Standards Committees is £143.50 per day to be uprated annually on the basis set out above.