



NORTHAMPTON
B O R O U G H C O U N C I L

COUNCIL

21 JULY 2008

Agenda Status: Public

Directorate: Chief Executive

Report Title	Members' Allowances 2007/08
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1. Summary

The report sets out a summary of Allowances that Councillors have received during 2007/08.

2. Recommendations

That the report be noted.

3. Report Background

3.1 The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 require local authorities to publish the sums paid to individual Councillors in respect of Basic Allowance, Special Responsibility Allowance, Dependants' Carers' Allowance, Travelling & Subsistence Allowance and Co-optees' Allowance. During 2007/08 no sums were paid in respect of Dependants' Carers' Allowance or Co-optees' Allowance.

3.2 Appendix A sets out the Allowances that Councillors have received. These are made up of a basic allowance, which all Councillors receive, a Special Responsibility Allowance (only one per Councillor), which some Councillors receive and which recognises Leadership of the party groups, chairmanships, Portfolio Holders, etc and Travel & Subsistence, which not all Councillors claim. The detailed Members Allowance Scheme forms part of the Council's Constitution and the accounts payable are determined annually. As the information has to be shown based on payments made in a financial year the appendix also shows these sums paid to former Councillors who were not re-elected in May 2007. Payments to the independent members of the Standards Committee are also included.

These allowances are taxable and in all cases any relevant Income Tax is deducted at source.

3.3 In addition there were the following payments made to three Councillors for their roles as Mayor and Deputy Mayor:

Colin Lill	£3,893.32	(Mayor – part year)
Brian Markham	£3,181.90	(Deputy Mayor)
Lee Mason	£20,102.98	(Mayor)

These payments are made to the Mayor and Deputy Mayor (and are intended to include expenses incurred by the Mayoress and Deputy Mayoress) and are designed to cover the majority of the mayoral diary throughout their term of office. The allowances are therefore designed to cover clothing, donations to charities, collections, gifts for special occasions, expenses on foreign visits (if any) and personal hospitality.

The main civic hospitality functions (for example, the Civic Ball and Mayor Making) official Christmas cards and photographs and past Mayors' and Mayoress' badges are otherwise funded by the Council.

4. Implications (including financial implications)

4.1 Resources and Risk

All payments were made within budget.

4.2 Legal

None

4.3 Other Implications

None

5. Background Papers

None.

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