

PAY POLICY STATEMENT 2023/24

Summary:	Section 38 of the Localism Act 2011 (“the Act”) requires the Council to produce an annual pay policy statement (“the statement”) for the start of each financial year. The attached statement is drawn up in compliance with the Act to cover the period 2023/24. It is a legal requirement that Full Council formally signs off this statement and the responsibility cannot be devolved to any other person or committee.
Options considered:	There are no options to consider as part of this paper.
Conclusions:	The attached statement sets out current remuneration arrangements for officers.
Recommendations:	To adopt the attached Pay Policy Statement and to publish the statement for 2023/24 on the Council’s website.
Reasons for Recommendations:	To comply with the requirements of the Localism Act.

Cabinet Member(s) Cllr Tim Adams	Ward(s) affected
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1. Introduction

- 1.1 Section 38 (1) of the Localism Act 2011 (“the Act”) requires English and Welsh local authorities to produce a pay policy statement (“the statement”) for each financial year. The statement is signed off by Full Council immediately before the commencement of the year to which it relates.

2. The Statement (Appendix A)

- 2.1 The statement must set out:

- A local authority’s policy on the level and elements of remuneration for each Chief Officer
- A local authority’s policy on the remuneration of its lowest-paid employees (together with its definition of “lowest-paid employees” and its reasons for adopting that definition)
- A local authority’s policy on the relationship between the remuneration of its chief officers and other officers

- A local authority's policy on other specific aspects of chief officers' remuneration: remuneration on recruitment, increases and additions to remuneration, use of performance related pay and bonuses, termination payments, and transparency.

2.2 With regard to the process for approving the statement, it must:

- Be approved formally by Full Council and cannot be delegated to any sub-committee. This includes any amendments in each financial year
- Be approved by the end of March each year
- Be published on the authority's website and in any other manner that the Council thinks appropriate as soon as it is reasonably practicable after it is approved or amended
- Be complied with when the authority sets the terms and conditions for a Chief Officer.

2.3 For the purpose of the statement the term 'Chief Officer' in a local authority context is defined as set out in the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 as:

- The Head of Paid Service (Chief Executive Officer)
- The Monitoring Officer
- A statutory Chief Officer and non-statutory Chief Officer (section 2 of that Act)
- A deputy Chief Officer (section 2 of that Act)

2.4 This definition of Chief Officer is wider than that contained within the Constitution where the term 'chief officer' indicates the senior posts which sit on Corporate Leadership Team i.e. the Director of Resources (S151), Director for Place and Climate change, and Director for Communities.

3. Living Wage Supplement

3.1 The Council has paid a Living Wage as a supplement to affected posts since 1st January 2015 and the Joint Staff Consultative Committee recommended reviewing this payment on an annual basis. The supplement currently paid reflects the latest published rate for the 'real' living wage.

4. Travel Policy

4.1. The Travel Policy is attached at Appendix B. No permanent changes have been made since the last update, which was effective from 1 April 2017.

5. Conclusion

The statement meets the statutory requirements of the Localism Act and it is therefore recommended that the statement be approved.

6. Financial Implications and Risks

- 6.1. There are no increased risks as a result of setting and publishing the Pay Policy Statement. The report and the statement outline arrangements for 2023/24, subject to any national pay award.

7. Sustainability

There are no environmental sustainability implications arising from the report.

8. Equality and Diversity

The Equality act 2010 places requirements upon all public sector bodies to ensure that its policies and procedures promote equality, this document supports that requirement.

9. Section 17 Crime and Disorder considerations

There are no Section 17 implications arising from the report.