

**REPORT OF THE NORTH EAST DERBYSHIRE DISTRICT
COUNCIL INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL**

A REVIEW OF COUNCILLORS' ALLOWANCES

February 2013

Contents

Introduction	3
The Panel	5
Terms of Reference	6
Methodology	8
Conclusions	9
Recommendations	16
Appendices:	
A - Comparison Data	18
B – Approved Duties	24
C – Subsistence Rates	26

Introduction

The subject of councillors' allowances continues to be a sensitive and difficult issue and one which was again in the headlines during our latest review of North East Derbyshire's scheme.

In December last year, the Government announced its intention to stop councillors being part of the Local Government Pension Scheme from April 2014.

This was followed, just last month, by a report from the Communities and Local Government Select Committee entitled *Councillors on the frontline* in which remuneration was identified as one of three 'barriers' to becoming a councillor.

Whilst there have been calls for a national scheme of members allowances, locally decided arrangements continue to retain the support of Government meaning that the onus remains on the councillors themselves to decide their own allowances, following recommendations from an Independent Remuneration Panel.

This presents councillors and councils with a dilemma. As one county council leader is quoted as saying in the Select Committee report:

"Allowances now for front-line councillors, certainly for leading councillors, are high enough to offend the public but not high enough to encourage any sane person to give up their career and earning capacity to take it on."

CLG Committee, 2013, *Councillors on the frontline* [online]
[Accessed 8 Feb 2013] London: HMSO.

[www. publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmselect/cmcomloc/432/43202.htm](http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmselect/cmcomloc/432/43202.htm)

The consequences this has for attracting a range of candidates who are truly representative of local communities are clear. As the report goes on to say:

"The levels of allowances currently offered by many councils, at best, do not encourage and, at worst, deter capable people from standing for election. The problem is exacerbated because councils are reluctant to vote for an increase for fear of the media and public reaction."

This review of members' allowances, whilst respecting prevailing economic pressures and public opinion, seeks to redress a small number of anomalies which have arisen following new legislation and changing political circumstances at local level.

Our recommendations, if approved, should address the identified anomalies whilst resulting in an overall cost increase of less than £3,000 against the current total cost of members' allowances which is some £377,268 (excluding travel and subsistence).

This has been achieved through a proposed freeze on the basic and existing special responsibility allowances, a reduction in the co-optees' allowance, a simplification of mileage rates in line with HMRC levels and a proposal not to allow members to claim more than one special responsibility allowance at any one time.

Taken together, these measures mitigate the introduction of two new special responsibility allowances which the Panel considered were necessary to recognise responsibility which clearly existed and ensure that the Council properly complied with Regulations which require at least one opposition councillor who is a leader/deputy leader of a political group or a group spokesperson to be paid a special responsibility allowance.

The rest of the previous scheme largely remains unchanged.

Indeed, the Panel recognised at an early stage of this review that it was likely to be more of a redistribution exercise than one which involved radical reductions or increases.

In presenting this report for the Council's consideration, I would of course like to thank my fellow Panel members for making my job as chair a pleasurable one, to officers for their advice and support on an often complex subject and finally to the members of North East Derbyshire District Council for their contributions to this review.

John Swain
Chair of the Independent Remuneration Panel

February 2013

The Panel

The Panel comprised:

Mr John Swain, former Head Teacher and former member of Chesterfield Borough Council and North East Derbyshire District Council Ethical Standards Committee (Chair of the Panel)

Mrs Susan Ambler, Head of Financial Accounting and Control at the University of Derby (Vice Chair of the Panel)

Mr George Cowcher, Chief Executive of the Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire Chamber of Commerce

Mr Dave Radford, Manager of Chesterfield and North East Derbyshire Volunteer Centre

Mr David Simmonds, Assistant Principal and Clerk to the Corporation at Chesterfield College

The Panel was supported by Council officers Bryan Mason, Sarah Sternberg and Matthew Kane.

Terms of Reference

Under The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 local authorities must have a scheme in place for the payment of allowances for local authority members.

The Council's current scheme was introduced in 2008 and index linked for four years, the maximum period permitted under legislation. A full review was therefore required in order to establish a new scheme.

Prior to making a new scheme members must have regard to the recommendations of an Independent Remuneration Panel which must comprise at least three members who are not current elected or co-opted members of the Authority and who are not disqualified from becoming members of an authority.

The purpose of the Panel is:

“To produce a report making recommendations to North East Derbyshire District Council on all matters required under Regulation 21 of Statutory Instrument 2003 No 1021.”

Specifically, the Panel is required to make recommendations to the Council in respect of the following matters:

- The level of basic allowance, special responsibility allowance, travel and subsistence allowance, co-optees' allowance and dependent carers' allowance at the District Council;
- As to whether, in the event that the scheme is amended at any time so as to affect an allowance payable for the year in which the amendment is made, payment of allowances may be backdated in accordance with Regulation 10(6) of the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003.
- As to whether adjustments to the level of allowances may be determined according to an index and if so which index and how long that index should apply, subject to a maximum of four years before its application is reviewed.
- As to which members of an authority are to be entitled to pensions in accordance with a scheme made under section 7 of the Superannuation Act 1972.
- As to treating basic allowance or special responsibility allowance, or both, as amounts in respect of which such pensions are payable in accordance with a scheme made under section 7 of the Superannuation Act 1972.

In addition, the Panel also acts as the Parish Remuneration Panel, making recommendations as to:

- The amount of parish basic allowance payable to members of such authorities in the District.
- The amount of travelling and subsistence allowance payable to members of such authorities in the District.
- Whether parish basic allowance should be payable only to the chairman of any such authority or to all of its members.
- Whether, if parish basic allowance should be payable to both the chairman and other members of any such authority, the allowance payable to the chairman should be set at a level higher than that payable to the other members and, if so, the higher amount so payable.
- The responsibilities or duties in respect of which members should receive parish travelling and subsistence allowance.

The Panel met on 7 November and 19 December 2012 and 6 February 2013.

Methodology

The Panel met on three occasions during which time it considered a variety of sources of information to assist in the formulation of its recommendations.

Desktop research

At the first meeting the Panel considered a report of the Monitoring Officer giving the background to the current scheme as well as the relevant legislation and guidance underpinning the conduct of independent remuneration panels and setting of members' allowance schemes together with the *Councillors Commission* report of 2007.

The Panel was further assisted by the provision of recent member role profiles that have been developed in conjunction with the Council's Member Development Working Group. The Panel expressed a wish to see these role profiles developed further with one being provided for the Leader of the Main Opposition Group.

Member Involvement

The Panel met with and received written representations from a small number of members whose positions did not currently command a special responsibility allowance but may have a case for doing so in the future. These were the Chair and Vice Chair of Standards Committee and the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Conservative Group.

In addition, all members were canvassed on their views about pensions, travel and subsistence and dependent carers' allowance. The Panel received 15 responses in total.

The Comparator Group

The Panel also considered statistics in respect of nine other councils who share common demographic features to North East Derbyshire.

The comparator group comprised all the Derbyshire districts with the exception of Derbyshire Dales and High Peak – who are both vast rural districts very different from North East Derbyshire – together with the Nottinghamshire districts of Ashfield, Bassetlaw and Mansfield.

I would like to thank all nine councils for their assistance with our review.

Details of the comparison information we considered is given in **Appendix A** to this report.

Conclusions

Having considered all of the evidence summarised in the previous section, the Panel has formed the following views in respect of a new scheme.

Basic Allowance

The Basic Allowance is an allowance paid to all 53 councillors. The current payment of £5,010 puts the Council firmly in mid-table amongst the comparator group. The Panel was of the view that this allowance was at the right level and therefore recommends that the basic allowance be frozen at the current amount.

Special Responsibility Allowance

The following special responsibility allowances are payable under the current scheme:

Post	Responsibility	No	Relative Responsibility £
Cabinet	Leader	1	17,222
	Deputy Leader	1	12,375
	Other Cabinet Members	7	7,893
Scrutiny Committee	Chair	4	3,768
	Vice-Chair	4	1,253
Planning Committee	Vice-Chair	1	1,253
Council	Chair	1	4,761
	Vice-Chair	1	792

In respect of the current special responsibility allowances payable, the Council is again mid-table or thereabouts in respect of payments made to the Leader, Deputy Leader, Cabinet members, Scrutiny Chairs and Vice Chairs and the Vice Chair of Planning Committee.

The Panel considered that, given the increased work pressures on the Leader, Deputy Leader and Cabinet members arising from their requirement to manage the continued pressure on the Council's finances and attempts to protect frontline services through the Strategic Alliance with Bolsover District Council, a small increase in special responsibility allowance could be justified.

However, given the current economic and financial environment in which this review has taken place, it is recommended that the special responsibility allowances for the Leader, Deputy Leader and Cabinet members, together with those for Chairs and Vice Chairs of Scrutiny Committees and the Vice Chair of Planning Committee be frozen at their current levels.

Under the current scheme, separate special responsibility allowances are not paid to the Chairs of Licensing and Planning Committees as both positions are held by Cabinet members and their committee responsibilities form part of their portfolio.

However, were this situation to change and the Chair of Planning Committee not be a member of Cabinet, the Panel would like to recommend that an allowance of £3,768 be payable bearing in mind the responsibility this position entails in respect of chairing at least 12 committees per year, attending frequent site visits and regular liaison with officers.

A similar payment was considered for the Chair of Licensing Committee if he or she was not a Cabinet member at any point in the future. However, given the relative infrequency with which the Licensing Committee meets this does not form part of our recommendations.

The civic allowances for Chair and Vice Chair of the Council do not strictly fall within the auspices of the Independent Remuneration Panel although we did consider them for the sake of completeness and propose no change.

Under the current scheme, no additional special responsibility allowance is paid to Chairs of the Community Partnerships as they are each chaired by a member of the Cabinet. If the situation changes and those Partnerships are chaired by a non-Cabinet member then an allowance of £2,533 is payable.

Given the current status of the Community Partnerships, and the fact that they are and always have been chaired by members of Cabinet, it is recommended that the amount payable to a non-Cabinet member for chairing a Community Partnership be removed.

The Panel initially identified four positions that did not currently command a special responsibility allowance but may have a case for doing so in future. These were:

- Chair and Vice Chair of Standards Committee
- Leader and Deputy Leader of the Main Opposition Group

The Chair and Vice Chair of Standards Committee are new roles arising from the introduction of the new standards regime. Limited comparison data is available from other councils in respect of remuneration for these positions as many have yet to consider the matter.

The Panel considered representations from the Chair of Standards Committee and felt that this role was broadly comparable to a Chair of a Scrutiny Committee. Whilst the new standards framework should result in fewer complaints going to hearings, the potential political element of the meeting together with the additional workload in respect of having jurisdiction over the Constitution, complaints process and RIPA Policy adds an extra dimension. On this basis, it is recommended that a special responsibility allowance of £3,768 be payable to the Chair of Standards Committee.

The Panel considered at length whether a special responsibility allowance should be payable to the Vice Chair. The Panel again had a limited degree of information upon which to form its judgment. The recommendation is that no special responsibility allowance be payable to the Vice Chair of Standards Committee although this should in no way detract from the duties involved and should the role become clearer over a period of time this recommendation may need to be reviewed.

In considering a special responsibility allowance for the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Main Opposition Group, the Panel noted that there was a requirement under the Regulations to provide a special responsibility allowance to at least one member on the Council who was not a member of the controlling group and who held the position of leader or deputy leader of a political group or was a group spokesperson.

This was currently not happening at North East Derbyshire, not through any wilful error but due to changing circumstances that had created an anomaly. The Panel noted that the former Leader of the Conservative Group was a Cabinet member but these arrangements changed following the 2011 District Council elections and now no member of the Opposition receives any remuneration above their basic allowance.

The Panel noted that the Leader of the Conservative Group commanded a substantial group of 17 members and felt that the role held significant responsibilities.

Furthermore, the Panel noted that the Council was the only authority in the comparator group not to pay a special responsibility allowance to the Leader of the Main Opposition Group and was therefore out of kilter with other councils. To redress the balance, a special responsibility allowance of £4,761 is recommended for the Leader of the Main Opposition Group. This represents a 'mid-table' payment in the context of the comparator group.

If, at any point in the future, two opposition groups have the same number of members it is recommended that the special responsibility allowance for Leader of the Main Opposition Group be split equally and divided between the leaders of those groups.

The Panel considered information provided by the Deputy Leader of the Main Opposition Group during interview. This is a developing role but at this stage has limited scope. Should the post-holder continue in the role and more responsibility be delegated over a period of time then this recommendation may warrant review. The recommendation now is that no special responsibility allowance be payable to the Deputy Leader of the Main Opposition Group.

Under the current scheme, a member cannot be in receipt of more than two special responsibility allowances. In view of the current financial and economic climate, the Panel has recommended that the number of special responsibility allowances a member should be able to claim be reduced to one. Where a member is entitled to two or more special responsibility allowances then only the highest will be payable. It is understood that this change will affect one member on the current Council.

Travel and Subsistence Allowance

Mileage is currently paid at the following rates dependent upon engine size:

	451-999cc	1000-1199cc	1200-1450cc
<i>Per mile first 8,500</i>	46.9p	52.2p	65.0p
<i>Per mile after 8,500</i>	13.7p	14.4p	16.4p

The Panel felt that this was a complicated system of calculating mileage payments and was more costly than that applied in private and other public sector industries.

It is recommended that the current rates be brought in line with rates set by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs as follows:

	First 10,000 business miles in the tax year	Each business mile over 10,000 in the tax year
Cars and vans	45p	25p
Motor cycles	24p	24p

In addition it is recommended that a new 20p per mile mileage rate be introduced for councillors wishing to travel by bicycle. This, again, is in line with HMRC rates.

The Panel is of the view that the proposed new rates are simpler to calculate, reward those who travel by environmentally friendly means and will result in some savings.

The Panel briefly considered removing the right of Cabinet members to claim travel and subsistence, acknowledging that the Leader and Deputy Leader submitted no such claims in 2011/12. However, owing to administrative complexities with removing this right altogether and the fact that some members stood to lose out significantly more than others, the Panel decided against this approach.

It is recommended that the Council's list of 'approved duties' for which mileage is payable, as attached at **Appendix B**, remain unchanged. Subsistence rates, at **Appendix C**, are also proposed to remain unchanged.

Co-opted Members' Allowance

The Council currently has the highest co-opted members allowance in the comparator group at £2,505 – half of a District Councillor's basic allowance.

Following legislation in 2007 which delegated responsibility for determining ethical standards cases from Standards for England to local authorities, it was anticipated that co-opted members would have significantly more cases to consider which justified this level of co-optees' allowance.

The legislation was such at the time that cases could result in suspension and co-opted members held an important position in the framework, having both voting rights and a majority on the committee.

In practice the additional cases did not materialise at North East Derbyshire and the standards regime was then reformed. Sanctions such as suspension were removed from the new committee's jurisdiction and the status of co-optees in the revised regime has been limited to a non-voting role.

Whilst the two co-opted members on the Council's Standards Committee hold important positions in giving voice to the views of the District's parish and town councils it is recommended that the co-optees' allowance be reduced to £500 to bring it into line with authorities in the comparator group.

Dependent Carers' Allowance

This is currently paid at £6.11 per hour and covers childcare responsibilities as well as councillors who care for other adults. The Panel noted that no claims for dependent carers' allowance were made in 2011/12.

Having canvassed councillors' views on this, the Panel found that a number of councillors with children had alternative arrangements in place while they were on council business, e.g. school or parents. Other members felt that basic allowance should be sufficient to cover any childcare costs incurred.

One member commented that they tried to minimise the cost of them participating in meetings by not claiming the allowance.

Despite the lack of claims, the Panel felt that the dependent carers' allowance was crucial to minimising the barriers for councillors with childcare and caring responsibilities.

It is recommended that the rate be increased from £6.11 to the minimum wage rate for people aged 21 and over, which is currently £6.19 per hour.

Backdating

Under the Regulations the Council may backdate allowances to the beginning of the year in which the new scheme is set, i.e. 1 April 2012, or, in cases where new responsibilities have been taken on part-way through a year, from the date when the responsibilities were assumed.

The Panel recognised that backdating would allow the discrepancy relating to the special responsibility allowance for the Leader of the Main Opposition Group to be addressed for one of the two years outstanding as well as remunerate the Chair of Standards Committee from the beginning of her taking office on 9 July 2012.

However, given the additional financial impact this would have and the Panel's desire to see that impact minimised, it is recommended that there be no backdating of allowances within the new scheme.

Index Linking

The Panel felt that linking increases in members' allowances to the percentage increase in pay for Council employees remained the most appropriate method of index linking.

It is recommended that this remain in force for the maximum period of four years.

Pensions

Councillors at North East Derbyshire were first permitted to join the Local Government Pension Scheme following the Independent Remuneration Panel in 2008 having been advised against doing so by previous Independent Remuneration Panels. Only a councillor's basic allowance is pensionable.

The position with regard to what other councils do in relation to pensions is mixed. Most of the nine authorities in the comparator group allow all members to claim pensions in respect of both basic and special responsibility allowances. However two authorities – Amber Valley and Erewash - do not allow members to join the Pension Scheme.

The situation is further complicated by the Government's commitment to remove councillors' access to the Local Government Pension Scheme from April 2014. Those already in the Scheme will have their pensions accrued up to this date protected but will not be able to accrue any more benefits after that date.

There are clearly some financial implications to allowing special responsibility allowances to become pensionable and these are not insignificant to any organisation which is looking to find savings.

Furthermore, few councillors at North East Derbyshire are actually in the Pension Scheme. When canvassed for their views on why more did not join, some members commented that they had alternative pension arrangements whilst others said that they were already of pensionable age.

Other councillors said that they were not aware that they could claim for a local government pension and one commented that, because the scheme was a career average, any pension paid may not be worthwhile.

Having taken account of all these factors, it is recommended that all councillors continue to be entitled to pensions and that basic allowance continue to be treated as an amount in respect of which such pensions are payable.

This right will continue in place until such time as the law changes or, if the law does not change, whenever the matter is next considered by an Independent Remuneration Panel.

Parish Councils

The last time North East Derbyshire considered its Members' Allowance Scheme the Panel proposed that parish basic allowance be 10% of a District Councillor's basic allowance and that it be paid to all members on a parish/town council. To the Panel's knowledge no parish or town council in North East Derbyshire has taken advantage of this option to pay their members.

The Panel felt that whilst allowances for parish and town councillors should be a decision that was made locally, not making any recommendation may deny local councils the right to provide such allowances.

In view of this, it is recommended that the current recommendation that parish basic allowance be payable to all members on a parish/town council at a rate of 10% of a District Councillor's basic allowance remain unchanged.

No further recommendations were made in respect of parish and town councils.

Recommendations

The Panel has made the following recommendations for the payment of allowances with effect from 5 March 2013:-

- That the current basic allowance for members be frozen at £5,010;
- That the following special responsibility allowances be payable:

	<i>Recommended allowance</i>	<i>No of members to which it applies</i>
Leader of the Council	£17,222	1
Deputy Leader of the Council	£12,375	1
Cabinet Member	£7,893	7
Leader of Main Opposition Group	£4,761	1
Chair of Scrutiny Committee	£3,768	4
Vice Chair of Scrutiny Committee	£1,253	4
Chair of Standards Committee	£3,768	1
Vice Chair of Planning Committee	£1,253	1
Chair of Council	£4,761	1
Vice Chair of Council	£792	1

- That if, in future, the Planning Committee is not chaired by a Cabinet Member then a special responsibility allowance of £3,768 be payable to the Chair of Planning Committee.
- That the special responsibility allowance of £2,533 payable to non-Cabinet members who chair Community Partnerships be removed.
- That a member be entitled to claim only one special responsibility allowance at any one time, rather than up to two as is the current arrangement. Where a member is entitled to two or more special responsibility allowances then only the highest will be payable.
- That if, at any point in the future, the two main opposition groups have the same number of members the special responsibility allowance for Leader of the Main Opposition Group be divided equally between the leaders of those groups.
- That mileage rates be simplified and brought in line with HMRC rates as follows:

	First 10,000 business miles in the tax year	Each business mile over 10,000 in the tax year
Cars and vans	45p	25p
Motor cycles	24p	24p

- That a new 20p per mile mileage rate be introduced for bicycle travel.
- That the Council's list of approved duties and current rates for claiming subsistence remain the same.
- That the allowance for co-opted members be reduced from £2,505 to £500.
- That the rate of dependent carers' allowance be increased from £6.11 to £6.19 in line with the national minimum wage for workers who are aged 21 and over.
- That any adjustments in the above allowances not be backdated.
- That any adjustments to the level of allowances be linked for four years to an amount equal to the annual percentage increase in salary consistent with that applied to Council employees.
- That all members continue to be entitled to pensions and that basic allowance continue to be treated as the amount in respect of which such pensions are payable.

The Panel, acting as the Parish Remuneration Panel under the Regulations, has also recommended:

- That any parish or town council wishing to pay parish basic allowance should pay it at a rate of 10% of a District Councillor's basic allowance and that parish basic allowance be payable to each member on the council.

COMPARISON DATA

Basic allowance

Authority	Allowance
Bolsover	£10,047.44
Ashfield	£6,588
Mansfield	£6,187
South Derbyshire	£5,982
North East Derbyshire	£5,010
Bassetlaw	£4,628
Chesterfield	£4,377
Erewash	£3,848
Amber Valley	£3,722
Broxtowe	£3,704

Special Responsibility Allowance – Leader

Authority	Allowance
Mansfield	£53,151 (elected mayor)
Chesterfield	£27,510
Ashfield	£18,121
South Derbyshire	£17,940
North East Derbyshire	£17,222
Amber Valley	£15,074
Bolsover	£14,672.16
Broxtowe	£13,424 plus £1,342 for group leader
Bassetlaw	£13,255
Erewash	£12,754

Special Responsibility Allowance – Deputy Leader

Authority	Allowance
Mansfield	£17,968 (deputy mayor)
Chesterfield	£15,134
Ashfield	£13,594
North East Derbyshire	£12,375
South Derbyshire	£9,860
Bolsover	£9,781.44
Bassetlaw	£8,918
Erewash	£6,374
Broxtowe	£6,041
Amber Valley	£5,583

Special Responsibility Allowance – Cabinet Member

Authority	Allowance
Mansfield	£14,885
Ashfield	£10,876
South Derbyshire	8,960 (committee chairs)
<i>North East Derbyshire</i>	<i>£7,893</i>
Chesterfield	£6,041
Bassetlaw	£5,682
Erewash	£5,225
Bolsover	£4,890.72
Broxtowe	£4,698
Amber Valley	£3,908

Special Responsibility Allowance – Scrutiny Chair

Authority	Allowance
Ashfield	£10,876
South Derbyshire	£8,960
Mansfield	£7,450
Chesterfield	£4,608
Broxtowe	£4,027
<i>North East Derbyshire</i>	<i>£3,768</i>
Erewash	£3,377
Bolsover	£3,260.48
Bassetlaw	£3,164
Amber Valley	£2,233

Special Responsibility Allowance – Scrutiny Vice-Chair

Authority	Allowance
Ashfield	£3,593
Chesterfield	£2,304
South Derbyshire	£2,240
Bolsover	£1,630.24
<i>North East Derbyshire</i>	<i>£1,253</i>
Erewash	£1,124
Amber Valley	£782
Broxtowe	£671
Bassetlaw	£633
Mansfield	£0

Special Responsibility Allowance – Standards Committee Chair

Authority	Allowance
Ashfield	£4,093 (combined audit/standards)
Chesterfield	£2,254
Mansfield	£2,055
Erewash	£1,398
Broxtowe	£1,342
Amber Valley	£1,117
Bassetlaw	£0
Bolsover	£0 (combined audit/standards)
North East Derbyshire	£0
South Derbyshire	£0

Special Responsibility Allowance – Planning Committee Vice-Chair

Authority	Allowance
Ashfield	£3,593
Bassetlaw	£1,265
North East Derbyshire	£1,253
Erewash	£1,124
Broxtowe	£671
Amber Valley	£0
Bolsover	£0
Chesterfield	£0
Mansfield	£0
South Derbyshire	£0

Special Responsibility Allowance – Opposition Leader

Authority	Allowance
Ashfield	Up to £10,876
South Derbyshire	£8,960
Chesterfield	£8,600
Erewash	£4,969
Bolsover	£4,890.72
Bassetlaw	£4,218
Amber Valley	£2,233
Broxtowe	£1,342
Mansfield	£1,064
North East Derbyshire	£0

Special Responsibility Allowance – Opposition Deputy Leader

Authority	Allowance
Ashfield	Up to £5,438
Chesterfield	£4,299
South Derbyshire	£2,240
Amber Valley	£1,117
Bassetlaw	£0
Bolsover	£0
Broxtowe	£0
Erewash	£0
North East Derbyshire	£0
Mansfield	£0

Special Responsibility Allowance – Co-opted Member

Authority	Allowance
North East Derbyshire	£2,505
Chesterfield	£2,254
South Derbyshire	£1,116
Mansfield	£514
Bolsover	£500
Erewash	£500
Amber Valley	£335
Ashfield	£294
Broxtowe	£33.10 per day worked
Bassetlaw	£0

Special Responsibility Allowance – Chair of Council

Authority	Allowance
Bassetlaw	£7,941
South Derbyshire	£7,410
Ashfield	£7,194
Chesterfield	£5,140
North East Derbyshire	£4,761
Broxtowe	£4,698
Amber Valley	£4,200
Erewash	£3,555
Mansfield	£2,784
Bolsover	£2,500

Special Responsibility Allowance – Vice-Chair of Council

Authority	Allowance
Ashfield	£4,129
Bassetlaw	£2,559
South Derbyshire	£1,920
Broxtowe	£1,342
Chesterfield	£1,224
Erewash	£1,183
Mansfield	£1,147
Amber Valley	£1,100
<i>North East Derbyshire</i>	<i>£792</i>
Bolsover	£500

Authority	Population (est. 2011 data)	No of Members	Political Make-up	Total spent on allowances 2011/12	Approx cost per capita	Approx cost per member	Last review of allowances	Can members claim pensions	Are contributions based on basic, SRAs or both
Amber Valley	122,300	45	24 Con 21 Lab	£232,195	£1.90	£5,160	2009	No	N/A
Ashfield	117,000	33	24 Lab 4 LD 5 Other	£402,515	£3.44	£12,197	2012	Yes	Both
Bassetlaw	113,000	48	34 Lab 11 Con 3 Ind	£340,413	£3.01	£7,092	2012	Yes	Both
Bolsover	76,000	37	32 Lab 5 Other	£463,451	£6.10	£12,526	2011	Yes	Both
Broxtowe	109,700	44	18 Con 17 Lab 9 LD	£264,342	£2.41	£6,008	2012	Yes	Both
Chesterfield	103,800	48	34 Lab 14 LD	£368,290	£3.55	£7,673	2012	Yes	Both
Erewash	112,200	51	26 Con 25 Lab	£295,750	£2.64	£5,799	2007	No	N/A
Mansfield	99,600	36	24 Lab 10 Ind 2 Other	£479,769	£4.82	£13,327	2011	Yes	Both
North East Derbyshire	99,100	53	34 Lab 17 Con 2 Ind	£397,933	£4.02	£7,508	2008	Yes	Basic only
South Derbyshire	94,900	36	19 Con 17 Lab	£329,798	£3.48	£9,161	2011	Yes	Both

APPROVED DUTIES

The following are approved duties for which members may claim travel and subsistence expenses:

- (1) Any meeting of the Council;
- (2) Any meeting of a committee (including Cabinet), joint committee, sub-committee, advisory group or site visits group to which the member has been appointed;
- (3) Any community partnership where the member is either the chair or where the ward they represent is part of the partnership area;
- (4) Any pre-agenda meeting, briefing, forum or site visit to which the member has been asked to attend by an officer;
- (5) Any meeting or event of an outside body to which the member has been appointed as the Council's representative;
- (6) Any activity to which the member has been asked to attend in connection with member development;
- (7) Any conference or seminar approved by the Council or Member Development Working Group;
- (8) Any meeting to which the member has been requested to attend by the Joint Chief Executive or Joint Management Team.
- (9) Any evidence gathering activity within a reasonable distance connected with a review being undertaken by an overview and scrutiny committee;
- (10) Any hearing or tribunal to which the member has been asked to attend to give evidence;
- (11) In the case of the Chair or Vice Chair of the Council, any duties connected with their role as the Council's civic ambassador and up to one day per week in connection with the signing of legal documents;
- (12) In the case of the Leader and Deputy Leader, up to five days per week in connection with Council business;
- (13) In the case of other Cabinet portfolio holders, up to three days per week in connection with Council business;
- (14) In the case of chairs or vice chairs of scrutiny committees, one day per week in connection with the work of their committee;

- (15) In the case of the leaders of Conservative and Independent Groups, one day per week in connection with Council business;
- (16) In the case of the Chair of Standards Committee, one day per week in connection with the work of their Committee.

The following are not approved duties and claims may not be made for them:

- (1) Any meetings or site visits with individuals, officers or groups of electors to discuss issues in connection with a member's ward;
- (2) Any duty undertaken for party political purposes;
- (3) Any duty in connection with being a school governor;
- (4) Any meeting or event organised by other organisations including town and parish councils.

PC consumables

The following items are payable where used in connection with Council duties:

- (1) Broadband subscriptions where the member has not taken advantage of an I-Pad or a Broadband subscription offered directly through the Council;
- (2) Printer cartridges and paper.

All claims should be made within two months and are reported on the website and in 'The News' on an annual basis.

SUBSISTENCE RATES

Subsistence will be paid on the following basis where the member is on Council duty for four hours or more:

	Hours of claim	Maximum claim
Breakfast	Before 11am	£5.61
Lunch	12-2pm	£7.73
Tea	3-6pm	£3.04
Evening Meal	After 7pm	£9.37
Overnight allowance	N/A	£79.82
Overnight allowance (LGA)	N/A	£91.04