

19 October, 2022

LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 196 – 201

At a Meeting of the **POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE** of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, and via remote attendance on Wednesday, 19 October, 2022, at 4.45 p.m.

Present: Cllr. R. E. Evans (Chairman)

Cllrs.

S. R. Bowen	N. Evans
D. M. Cundy	J. P. Hart
S. L. Davies	S. N. Lewis
A. Evans	J. S. Phillips
B. M. Williams	

196. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. S. M. T. Ford and A. G. Morgan.

197. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

**198. INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL FOR WALES
DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT 2023/2024**

Members were circulated with the draft Annual Report 2023/2024 received from the Chairman, Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales (IRPW). In accordance with the requirements of Section 147 of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011, the IRPW's draft annual report set out proposals for member allowances which would take effect for the financial year 2023.

Members' attention was drawn to Determination 4 of the report advising that the Independent Remuneration Panel recognised that all members of community and town councils spend time working from home on council business. As a result, members have extra domestic costs and also need office consumables.

Determination 4 advised all councils must pay their members £156 a year towards the extra household expenses (including heating, lighting, power and broadband) for working from home.

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Determination 4 of the report also proposed that councils must either pay members £52 a year for the cost of office consumables required to carry out their role, or alternatively councils must enable members to claim full reimbursement for the cost of their office consumables. It was a matter for each council to make and record a policy decision in respect of when and how the payments were made. The policy should also state whether and how to recover any payments made to a member who leaves or changes their role during the financial year.

Attention was drawn to the report table which set out the level of payments to community and town councils brought about by the previous year's extensive review. Members were informed there were no further changes planned to the type and level of payments. Therefore all other Determinations from the Panel's final report in relation to 2022/23 were valid and should continue to be applied to 2023/24. The Clerk then led members through the accompanying questionnaire and, it was

RESOLVED that:

1. The draft annual report determinations be noted for budget preparation purposes for the forthcoming financial year and in anticipation of receiving the final annual report in February 2023.
2. The Clerk responds to the accompanying questionnaire highlighting member's views and observations.

199. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT, 1960

RESOLVED that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the following matters be considered in private and that the power of exclusion of the public under Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act, 1960 be exercised.

**200. STAFFING MATTERS
SICKNESS ABSENCE MANAGEMENT POLICY**

Members considered the report of the Technical and General Operations Manager which presented a revised sickness absence management policy for adoption. The policy was last revised in 2005.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED that the revised policy be adopted.

201. COUNCIL VEHICLE

Further to Minute No. 375 (19 January, 2022), members received the report of the Technical and General Operations Manager informing of the requirement to dispose of the former civic vehicle which was now surplus to requirements.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED that the vehicle be disposed of following the principles of best value.

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The meeting concluded at 5.17 p.m.

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