ANGUS COUNCIL

Meeting of Angus Council – 12 May 2011

Report by the Director of Corporate Services

MEMBERS REMUNERATION, ALLOWANCES AND EXPENSES 2010/11

Abstract: This report brings to the Council’s attention the amount of remuneration, allowances and expenses paid to Councillors for the period 1 April 2010 to 31 March 2011. The report also provides an update on Members training.

1 RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Council:

a) note the contents of this report for its interest; and

b) note that the information in Appendix 1 will be published on the Council’s website in accordance with legislative requirements

2 INTRODUCTION

Reference is made to Report 441/07 submitted to the Statutory Meeting of the Council on 22 May 2007 and to the Angus Council Scheme of Members’ Remuneration, Allowances and Expenses initially issued to all Members in May 2007. These documents set out the background to Angus Council’s remuneration, allowances and expenses arrangements for Councillors which are all in accordance with relevant legislation and guidance from the Scottish Government.

The Council is required by legislation to publish in a standard format details of the amounts of remuneration (salaries), allowances and expenses paid to Councillors in respect of the previous financial year by 1 June each year. The Council is also required to make information on councillors’ remuneration and expenses available for inspection at council offices when requested to do so in writing by a member of the public.

For financial year 2010/11 the remuneration, etc. information represents the third full year under the Local Governance (Scotland) Act 2004 (Remuneration) Regulations 2007 and the Local Government (Allowances and Expenses) (Scotland) Regulations 2007.

This report provides details of the payments made in financial year 2010/11 in Appendix 1. Members’ attention is drawn to the notes in the appendix which provides additional contextual and explanatory information.

Members should also note that in terms of revised guidance in Councillors’ Remuneration, Allowances and Expenses (April 2010), certain additional information requires to be published in the annual summary. This additional information needs to reflect any costs met directly by the council on behalf of councillors, i.e. the use of the council car, training and conference expenses and other telephone costs.

3 ELECTED MEMBER TRAINING UPDATE

During year 4 of the current term of office, a total of 364.5 hours of training and development were undertaken by members. All members of the council participated in training of different types. This included formal training courses, conferences, seminars, distance learning, vocational education, briefings, workshops and e-learning packages.
Topics covered in training sessions included governance and effective scrutiny, treasury management, procurement, human rights, welfare reform and lone working, violence and aggression. Personal Development Plans were also updated where necessary and individual members continue to attend relevant training courses and briefings in support of these as appropriate.

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no additional financial implications arising from the recommendations in this report. All remuneration, allowances and expenses paid to Councillors have been contained within the Members Services 2010/11 Revenue Budget.

In total remuneration, allowances and expenses payments to or on behalf of Councillors of £619,189 were made in financial year 2010/11 whereof £12,332.74 was paid by other bodies or organisations.

Included in the total (£619,189) for the financial year 2010/11 is the value of the additional costs met by the council on behalf of Councillors totalling £13,854 being £7,370 for the use of the council car, £634 for training and conference expenses and £5,850 for other telephone costs.

5 HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

There are no human rights implications associated with this report.

6 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

The issues dealt with in this report have been the subject of consideration from an equalities perspective (as required by legislation). An equalities impact assessment is not required.

7 CONSULTATION

The Chief Executive, the Head of Finance and the Head of Law & Administration have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

COLIN MCMAHON
DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

NOTE: No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to a material extent in preparing the above report.

Finance/IL/RM/TB