REPORT TO: SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - RESOURCES

Date of Meeting: 2 July 2014

Report of: Corporate Manager Democratic and Civic Support Title: Members' Allowances and Expenses Paid 2013/14

Is this a Key Decision?

Nο

* One that affects finances over £1m or significantly affects two or more wards. If this is a key decision then the item must be on the appropriate forward plan of key decisions.

Is this an Executive or Council Function?

Council function

1. What is the report about?

To report the allowances paid to Elected Members and Co-opted Members in 2013/14.

2. Recommendation:

That Members of the Scrutiny Committee Resources note the allowances paid and expenses claimed by Members in 2013/14.

3. Reasons for the recommendation:

The Members' Allowances scheme is part of a transparent process.

4. What are the resource implications including non financial resources.

There is an existing budget allocation (there are additional resource implications to meet the expenses claimed).

5. Section 151 Officer comments:

The report reflects payments made during the 2013-14 financial year and they remained within the budget set.

6. What are the legal aspects?

The Members Allowances Scheme is governed by the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, and in particular the details are set out in the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003.

7. Monitoring Officer's comments:

None.

8. Report details:

The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 require the Council to publish the total sum of each of the following allowances paid to each recipient in the previous financial year:

- (a) basic allowance
- (b) special responsibility allowance
- (c) dependants' carers' allowance
- (d) travelling and subsistence allowance; and
- (e) co-optees' allowance and
- (f) the Lord Mayor and Deputy Lord Mayor's expenses allowance.

A schedule of allowances made and expenses claimed is attached to the report.

9. How does the decision contribute to the Council's Corporate Plan?

- Ensuring a well run Council.
- To invoke public confidence that the Council's operation in relation to Members are transparent.

10. What risks are there and how can they be reduced?

The risks are reduced by the publication of this annual report.

11. What is the impact of the decision on equality and diversity; health and wellbeing; safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults, community safety and the environment?

There is no impact.

12. Are there any other options?

Not applicable.

John Street, Corporate Manager, Democratic Services and Civic Support

<u>Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1972 (as amended)</u>
Background papers used in compiling this report:None

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