MEMBERS ALLOWANCES SCHEME 2023/24

The following scheme is made under powers conferred by Section 174 of the Local Government Act 1972 and the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 (as amended) (the Regulations).

The scheme shall be cited as the Sefton Council Members' Allowances Scheme and have effect from 1 April 2023 and for subsequent years commencing on 1 April.

Increases in Members Allowances will be linked to the average pay increase given to Sefton Council employees; and the annual adjustment in Members' Allowances will be implemented for a period of four years from April 2023 in accordance with the Regulations. This does not prevent the Independent Remuneration Panel from reviewing the Scheme at any time but allows for the Scheme to continue without a full review subject to the annual adjustment being applied.

In this Scheme, "Councillor" means a Member of Sefton Council who is a Councillor.

1. BASIC ALLOWANCE

The Basic Allowance is a flat rate sum paid to all Members. It recognises the time devoted, and expenses incurred by Members in carrying out their duties.

Subject to paragraph 4, the amount allocated for 2023/24 is £11,006.76

2. SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY ALLOWANCE

In order to recognise additional time and expenses incurred by Councillor's who have significant additional responsibilities in carrying out their duties for Sefton Council, and subject to paragraph 4, the Special Responsibility Allowances as set out below shall be paid:

With the exception of the Leader of the Council, Political Group Leaders with a membership of 10 or more members will receive a Special Responsibility Allowance which is 50% of the Basic Allowance set out in paragraph 1 above (£5,503.38) and any Political Group Leaders with fewer than 10 members will receive one tenth of £5,503.38 per Member of the Group, as set out below.

Only one Special Responsibility Allowance is paid per Member and the allowances for 2023/24 are:

Leader of the Council	£27,206.78
Cabinet Members	£18,137.43
Committee Chairs: Licensing and Regulatory	£11,006.76
Audit and Governance	£5,503.38
Overview and Scrutiny	£5,503.38

Political Group Leaders:

Liberal Democrat Leader £4,953.04

(9 Members)

Conservative Group Leader £2,751.69

(5 Members)

3. PART YEAR PAYMENTS

If in the course of a year, the scheme is amended or a Councillor becomes, or ceases to be a Councillor, then all allowances shall be adjusted on a pro-rata basis.

4. RENUNCIATION

A Councillor may, by giving notice in writing to Executive Director of Corporate Resources and Customer Services elect to forgo any part of their entitlements to an allowance under the Scheme.

5. MAYORAL ALLOWANCE

The allowance paid to the Mayor is linked to the Scheme of Members Allowances and the following shall be paid for 2023/24:

Mayor £16,510.14

6. APPOINTMENT TO THE LIVERPOOL CITY REGION COMBINED AUTHORITY - TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Members appointed to sit on the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Transport Committee by Sefton Council shall subject to paragraph 4 be paid a basic allowance of £6,577.10.

In order to recognise additional time and expenses incurred by Councillor's who have significant additional responsibilities in carrying out their duties on the Transport Committee, the following Special Responsibility Allowances shall subject to paragraph 4 be paid if applicable:

Vice Chair of the Committee - £11,560.67

Lead Member for Rail and Freight - £5,137.67

7. TRAVEL AND SUBSISTENCE

Travel and Subsistence Allowances will be paid for travel to meetings etc **outside of the borough** which are authorised by the Council for example:

 meetings and annual conferences of Outside Bodies to which Sefton has made appointments or nominations as set out in the appendix below.

- meetings and annual conferences of Local Authority Associations of which Sefton is a member.
- meetings, conferences and other duties which have been authorised in advance by the Council, Cabinet or by a Cabinet Member.

8. DEPENDENTS CARERS ALLOWANCE

Members who incur additional expenses in order to arrange care for dependents may claim these expenses. This rate is based on the National Minimum Wage up to a maximum of ten hours per week.

9. CLAIMS AND PAYMENTS

Payments shall be made in respect of Basic and Special Responsibility Allowances in monthly instalments on the 15th day of each month by bank transfer. All claims for additional expenses must be accompanied by receipts and will therefore be paid in arrears directly into Members Bank Accounts.

APPENDIX

Outside Bodies Approved by Council

Liverpool City Region Combined Authority

Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Transport Committee

Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority

Merseyside Police and Crime Panel

Merseyside Waste Disposal Authority

Outside Bodies Approved by the Cabinet

Armed Forces Member Champion

Ashton Memorial Fund, Formby

British Destinations

Cheshire and Merseyside Integrated Care System Joint Health Scrutiny Committee

Consolidated Charities of Thomas Brown and Marsh Dole

Elevate Education Business Partnership

Formby Pool Trust Board

Halsall Educational Foundation

Liverpool City Region Combined Authority Special Action Group on Child Poverty and Life Chances

Liverpool City Region Employment and Skills Board

Liverpool City Region Housing and Spatial Planning Board

Liverpool City Region Local Enterprise Partnership Board

Liverpool John Lennon Airport Consultative Committee

Liverpool University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust – Council of Governors

Liverpool Women's NHS Foundation Trust – Council of Governors

Local Government Association General Assembly

Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust – Council of Governors

Mersey Forest Partnership Steering Group

Mersey Port Health Committee

Merseyside Pensions Fund Pensions Committee

Merseyside Playing Fields Association

Merseyside Strategic Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Partnership

North-West Employer's Organisation

North-West Older Peoples Network

North-West Reserve Forces and Cadets Association

North-Western Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority

PATROL Adjudication Joint Committee (Parking and Traffic Regulations Outside London)

Peterhouse School, Southport - Governance Committee

Regenerus – South Sefton Development Trust

Safer Merseyside Partnership

Sandway Homes Limited Board (Sefton Housing Development Company)

Sefton Coast and Landscape Partnership Board

Sefton Council for Voluntary Service

Sefton Cycling ForumSefton Hospitality Operations Limited Board

Sefton New Directions Limited Board

Sefton Sports Council

Southport Pier Trust

Standing Advisory Committee for Religious Education (SACRE)

Trans Pennine Trail Members' Steering Group Veterans in Sefton Board