

Public notice

London Borough of Lambeth: Constitutional Issues 2023-24

Executive arrangements

The Council operates under the strong leader and cabinet model.

Forward plan

This sets out the key decisions that the Cabinet, Cabinet Members and officers are planning to take over the forthcoming one to four months. For each item, the Forward Plan includes a short description of the issue and when a decision is expected to be taken, who the decision-maker will be and how they can be contacted, what reports and background documents are available, and who will be consulted and how. The Council publishes the Forward Plan (virtually) every Monday. Each edition is published at www.lambeth.gov.uk and can be inspected at Lambeth Town Hall (see below).

Members Allowance Scheme

The scheme is set out in full in the Council's Constitution 2023-24, and in summary provides for:

Basic Allowance: An allowance of £12,014 payable to all Councillors.

Special Responsibility Allowances (SRAs): the following SRAs are paid in addition to the above.

	£ pa
Mayor civic allowance	16,599
Deputy Mayor civic allowance	5,534
Leader of the Council	42,258
Remaining Cabinet members (eight):	29,670
Cabinet Member Job Share (two):	14,835
Chief Whip	17,017
Deputy Chief Whip	5,202
Cabinet Deputies (four):	11,346
Leader of the Majority Opposition	10,511
Co-Leader of the Minority Opposition (two):	3,175
Overview and Scrutiny committee Chair:	16,848
Vice Chair of Overview and Scrutiny (three)	6,242
Planning Applications Committee Chair	16,848
Planning Applications Committee Vice-Chair	5,780
Licensing Committee and Sub-Committee Chair	10,404
Corporate Committee Chair	5,202
Fostering and Adoption Panel	4,162
Pensions Committee Chair	5,202
Policy Lead (three)	2,601
Independent Person(s) (non-Councillor) (two)	520

Monthly payments: Basic and special responsibility allowances are payable in monthly instalments.

Childcare & Dependent Care Allowance: This allowance is discretionary, and is payable to reimburse claimants for the actual expenditure incurred, the hourly rate will be set in line with the London living wage (plus a further payment of up to £15 to pay the cost of any taxi journey home for the carer).

Travel, Subsistence & Other Expenses: certain expenses can be claimed for eligible duties; full details are set out in Part 5 of the Council's Constitution.

Civic expenses: A civic expenses budget of £2,000 is available to meet the costs of civic gifts and hospitality and maintenance of civic regalia.

Independent report

In adopting the scheme, the Council had regard to the reports of the Independent Panel to London Councils on the Remuneration of Councillors in London. The recommendations in the 2022 report included the following:

• Level of allowances:

Allowance	Amount - £
Basic:	12,014
Special Responsibility Allowance:	
Band 1	2,807 – 10,218
Band 2	17,628 – 32,450
Band 3	39,860 – 47,271
Band 4	62,092

- Roles for councillors
- Public accountability
- Independent members of Standards Committee allowances
- Provision for sickness etc absence
- Rationalisation of tax position
- Pension entitlement
- Automatic uprating and thereafter tied to the annual Local Government Pay Settlement as its index
- 50% ceiling on number of councillors to receive an SRA

Further information

Copies of the scheme and guidance note, details of payments made to councillors, and the Independent Panel reports are on the Council website or may be inspected at Lambeth Town Hall – see contact information below.

Member code of conduct, register of member interests and gifts & hospitality

The Council's Member Code of Conduct for councillors and voting co-opted members (as required under the Localism Act 2011) was adopted on 20 June 2012. This is also set out in the Council's Constitution (Part 6, Section B) and may be inspected online or at Lambeth Town Hall. The register of interests of councillors and voting co-opted members and the register of gifts and hospitality are also open to public inspection.

Dated 26 April 2023
Raymond Prince
Director of Legal and Governance
Lambeth Town Hall
Brixton Hill
SW2 1RW

Contact for further information:
Wayne Chandai
Democratic Services
Tel. 020 7926 2170
Email: wchandai@lambeth.gov.uk
Web: www.lambeth.gov.uk