

Public notice

London Borough of Lambeth: Constitutional Issues 2021 - 22

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 basic scheme remains unamended from May 2018. The scheme is set out in full in the Council's Constitution 2021-22, and in summary provides for:

Basic Allowance: An allowance of £10,597 payable to all Councillors.

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

| | £ pa |
|--|--------|
| Mayor civic allowance | 15,954 |
| Deputy Mayor civic allowance | 5,319 |
| Leader of the Council | 40,617 |
| Remaining Cabinet members (nine): | 28,518 |
| Chief Whip | 16,356 |
| Deputy Chief Whip | 5,000 |
| Cabinet Deputies (three): | 10,905 |
| Leader of the Opposition | 16,207 |
| Overview and Scrutiny committee Chair: | 16,194 |
| Vice Chair of Overview and Scrutiny (two) | 6,000 |
| Children's Service Scrutiny Sub Committee Chair: | 6,000 |
| Planning Applications Committee Chair | 16,194 |
| Planning Applications Committee Vice-Chair | 5,556 |
| Licensing Committee and Sub-Committee Chair | 10,000 |
| Corporate Committee Chair | 5,000 |
| Fostering and Adoption Panel | 4,000 |
| Pensions Committee Chair | 5,000 |
| Policy Lead (three) | 2,500 |
| Independent Person(s) (non-Councillor) (two) | 500 |

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 2018 report included the following:

• Level of allowances:

| Allowance | Amount - £ |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Basic: | 11,045 |
| Special Responsibility Allowance: | |
| Band 1 | 2,582 – 9,397 |
| Band 2 | 16,207 – 29,797 |
| Band 3 | 36,917 – 43,460 |
| Band 4 | 57,085 |

- 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 4, Section 1) 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 21 April 2021
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