

## **MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME**

The Surrey County Council, in exercise of the powers conferred by The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003, hereby makes the following amended scheme:

### **INTRODUCTION**

1. This scheme may be cited as the Surrey County Council Members' Allowances Scheme, and shall have effect for the part-year commencing 13 January 2020 and until otherwise amended.
2. In this scheme,
  - 'councillor' means a member of the Surrey County Council who is a councillor;
  - 'year' means the 12 months ending with 31 March.
3. The scheme should be read in conjunction with the Guide to Members' Allowances.

### **BASIC ALLOWANCE**

4. Subject to paragraph 9, for each year a Basic Allowance of £12,442.80 shall be paid to each councillor.

### **SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY ALLOWANCES**

5. (1) For each year, a Special Responsibility Allowance shall be paid to those councillors who hold the special responsibilities in relation to the authority that are specified in Schedule 1 to this scheme.  
  
(2) The amount of each such allowance shall be the amount specified against that special responsibility in Schedule 1.

### **ATTENDANCE ALLOWANCES**

6. No Attendance Allowances shall be paid.

### **TRAVELLING AND SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCE**

7. Travelling and Subsistence Allowances will be paid for 'Approved Duties' as set out in Schedule 2 to this Scheme.

## **CO-OPTEEES' ALLOWANCE**

8. No co-optees allowances are payable. However, co-opted members may claim travel expenses.

## **CHILDCARE AND DEPENDENT CARERS' EXPENSES**

9. The Council will reimburse Members for expenditure incurred in providing child care arrangements for children for whom they have parental responsibility to enable them to attend an approved duty subject to a number of requirements specified in the Guide to Members' Allowances.
10. The Council also provides for the reimbursement of expenditure incurred by Members in providing care for dependant adults or children who are frail and/or disabled at a rate based on actual cost up to a specified limit.
11. The rates which may be claimed amount to a maximum of £8.00 per hour for childcare and £14.50 per hour for carers of dependent adults and children. These allowances may only be claimed for attendance at approved duties as specified in the Guide to Members' Allowances.

## **PENSIONS**

12. From 1 April 2014 councillors in England were unable to join the LGPS. Those councillors in England who were in the scheme on the 31 March 2014 were able to remain in the scheme until the end of that council term in 2017.

## **RENUNCIATION**

13. A councillor may by notice in writing given to the Support Services Manager (Democratic Services) elect to forego any part of his/her entitlement to an allowance under this Scheme.

## **PART-YEAR ENTITLEMENTS**

14. (1) If an amendment to this Scheme is made which affects payment of a Basic Allowance or a Special Responsibility Allowance in the year in which the payment is made, a councillor will be entitled to payment at the revised rate from the date on which the change was approved (unless otherwise stated).
- (2) If a councillor becomes or ceases to be eligible for a Basic or Special Responsibility Allowance during the course of a year, the entitlement will be adjusted by reference to the number of days for which entitlement existed relative to the number of days in that year.

## **CLAIMS AND PAYMENTS**

15. A claim for travelling and subsistence allowances under this scheme shall be made in writing within two months of the date of the meeting in respect of which the entitlement to the allowance arises.
16. Subject to any in-year amendments to the Scheme or changes in entitlement, Basic and Special Responsibility Allowances will be paid in instalments of one-twelfth of the amount specified in this Scheme on the last Thursday of each month.

## **SUSPENSION OF MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES**

17. Under the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) England regulations 2003:
  - (1) Allowances may be withheld during any period of suspension.
  - (2) Part of any Special Responsibility Allowance payable to a Member may be withheld in respect of the responsibility or duties from which the Member is suspended or partially suspended.
  - (3) In the event of suspension of a Member from a post of special responsibility, and the appointment of another Member to fill that post, then the full allowance relating to the post should be paid to the Member acting in that capacity.
  - (4) That the implications of suspension on the rules governing the attendance at meetings should be taken into account by the Standards Committee when considering what sanctions should be made against a Member.
18. The foregoing Scheme was made pursuant to the authority given by the County Council at its meeting held on 21 May 2019.

**SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL  
SCHEME OF MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES**

**SCHEDULE 1**

A Special Responsibility Allowance will be paid to those Members of the Council/Independent Representatives who hold the following offices:

<b>Type of Allowance</b>	<b>Allowance</b>
Basic Allowance	12,442.80
Leader	43,085.87
Deputy Leader	27,924.00
Chairman of the Council	18,035.95
Vice-Chairman of the Council	6,512.98
Cabinet Member	22,544.93
Deputy Cabinet Member	10,000.00
Select Committee Chairman	10,019.97
Planning and Regulatory Committee Chairman	12,024.00
Audit and Governance Chairman	10,019.97
Surrey Pension Fund Committee Chairman	10,019.97
Local and Joint Committee Chairmen	8,015.98
Vice-Chairmen of Committees	1,503.00
Opposition Leader	12,024.00 (total amount, divided between two posts)
Political Group Allowance (to be used for office holders of political groups)	170.34 per member of the group
Members of Adoption and Fostering Panels	100.00 per session attended plus travel expenses

Lead Member for Scrutiny of the Police & Crime Commissioner	0.00
Co-optees Allowance	0.00
Childcare Allowance	£8 per hour
Care of Dependants Allowance	£14.50 per hour

If a Member qualifies for a Special Responsibility Allowance for more than one post, all allowances may be claimed.

## **SCHEDULE 2**

### **Approved Duties**

Travelling and subsistence allowances are payable in respect of the approved duties listed in Appendix 1.

## **APPENDIX 1**

## APPROVED DUTIES

Approved duties are defined as follows:-

- (a) a meeting of the Council, the Cabinet (or a Cabinet Member meeting), any committee, or any formally constituted task groups or panels appointed by the Council, the Cabinet or any committees;
- (b) any other meeting (including, for example, a site visit or tour or induction or training seminar) convened by the Council, the Cabinet or a committee, or convened by the Chairman of the Council, the Cabinet or committee acting on their behalf (but not a meeting convened by an officer of the Council), provided that it is a meeting to which members of at least two political groups have been invited (except in the case of meetings relating to the work of a local committee which consists of a single political group);
- (c) attendance by the Chairman of the Cabinet or a committee at a meeting of any Task Group of the Cabinet or that committee of which he/she is not a member;
- (d) attendance by a non-member of the Cabinet, a committee or task group in the following circumstances:
  - (i) an item on the agenda in which they have a local interest and on which, with the Chairman's consent, they would wish to speak;
  - (ii) an Original Motion in their name which stands referred to the Cabinet or a committee under Standing Orders;
  - (iii) an item on the agenda of which they have given notice under Standing Orders; or
  - (iv) a question of which they have given notice under Standing Orders.

and where advance notice has been given to the Democratic Services Lead Manager.

- (e) attendance by an individual or named group of Members especially appointed by the Cabinet or a committee or task group to examine a particular problem or site or to meet representatives of other organisations or individuals as part of an agreed programme of activity;
- (f) attendance by Members at local briefing meetings at the invitation of an officer of the Council, provided that members of at least two

political groups have been invited (except in the case of meetings relating to the work of a local committee which consists of a single political group);

- (g) attendance by Members at public consultation meetings on significant matters of policy or service change, provided that members of at least two political groups have been invited (except in the case of meetings relating to the work of a local committee which consists of a single political group);
- (h) attendance by Members at joint briefings on the business to be transacted at committee meetings, organised by officers under the Member/Officer Protocol, provided that members of at least two political groups have been invited (except in the case of meetings relating to the work of a local committee which consists of a single political group);
- (i) attendance at County Hall or elsewhere by -
  - (i) the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the Council
  - (ii) the chairmen and vice-chairmen of committees
  - (iii) Cabinet Members

for the purpose of agenda planning and 'call-over' prior to a meeting; conferring with officers; visiting County establishments; inspecting sites; or being engaged in a similar manner directly in connection with the discharge of any of the functions -

- (i) of their respective offices; or
  - (ii) of their respective committees.
- (j) meetings held in connection with Local Ombudsman investigations; provided that they are meetings to which members of at least two political groups have been invited (except in the case of meetings relating to the work of a local committee which consists of a single political group);
- (k) a meeting of the Local Government Association, or of any committee, or other Member group of the Association to which a Member of the Council has been duly appointed;
- (l) attendance as a duly appointed County Council representative or nominee at meetings of those bodies listed on the Council's website.

- (m) visits by Members to County Council establishments including children's homes, other social services' residential establishments and special schools in accordance with a pre-determined rota;
- (n) meetings between leaders of the political groups;
- (o) meetings of parish and town councils and residents associations;
- (p) attendance at official openings at the specific invitation of the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the County Council;
- (q) attendance at formally arranged meetings with officers or representatives of external organisations to discuss a significant issue relating to a County Council service or affecting the Member's Electoral Division.
- (r) Attendance at a meeting with a constituent from the Member's own Division in direct response to a request about County Council services.

**TRAVELLING EXPENSES**

(a) **MOTOR CYCLES**

24p per mile

(b) **MOTOR CARS**

45p per mile for the first 10,000 miles

25p per mile for mileage over 10,000

An additional claim of 5p per mile may be made for each car passenger (not exceeding four) for whom travel expenses would otherwise be payable.

(c) **TAXI FARES**

Actual fare and a reasonable gratuity for travel by taxi. A taxi should only be used in cases of urgency or where no public transport is available.

(d) **HIRED MOTOR VEHICLES (OTHER THAN A TAXI OR MINICAB)**

Reimbursement may be claimed not exceeding the rate allowed for the use of a Member's own car.

(e) **TRAVEL BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT**

The actual expenditure may be claimed but Claims for reimbursement should normally be restricted to the cheapest available fares for the chosen mode of transport. Claims for first class travel may only be made if no alternative ordinary fares were available at the time of booking or where exceptional circumstances apply.

(f) **TRAVEL ABROAD**

Where travel abroad is necessary, for example for meetings or site visits, the officers involved will make the necessary travel arrangements. In any circumstances where individual Members need to travel abroad and officers are not directly involved in setting up the visit, they should obtain approval from the Leader of the County Council and contact the Democratic Services Support Services Manager, who will make the necessary arrangements. Bookings for travel abroad will normally be made using the cheapest appropriate available fare.

(g) **CYCLE ALLOWANCE**

The current rate for cycling allowance is 20p per mile.

## SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCES

### DAY SUBSISTENCE

1. Breakfast Allowance (more than 4 hours away from normal place of residence before 11.00am e.g. 7 am - 11 am) **£5.30**;
2. Lunch Allowance (more than 4 hours away from the normal place of residence including a lunchtime between 12 noon and 2.00pm e.g. 10 am - 2 pm; 12 pm - 4 pm) **£7.25**;
3. Tea Allowance (more than 4 hours away from the normal place of residence including the period 3.00pm to 6.00pm e.g. 2 pm - 6 pm) **£2.90**;
4. Evening Meal Allowance (more than 4 hours away from the normal place of residence ending after 7.00pm e.g. 4 pm - 8 pm; 5 pm - 9 pm) **£9.00**.

### OVERNIGHT SUBSISTENCE

5. For absence overnight (deemed to cover a continuous period of 24 hours) from the usual place of residence, **£85.80**, or where the absence overnight is in London or for attending one of the approved conferences, **£97.85**.
6. Overnight subsistence may only be claimed by Members to reimburse them for the cost of hotel accommodation and meals when attending one of the approved conferences, and up to the maximum rate set out in the guide.

If overnight allowance is claimed the Member may not claim allowance for meals which are provided as part of the overnight allowance e.g. breakfast, evening meal etc.

In most cases where the Member attends an approved conference, the booking arrangements are made by Democratic Services and the invoices will be paid directly by them on the Member's behalf. It will therefore not usually be necessary to claim overnight subsistence.