



Agenda Item 7

**The Local Governance (Scotland)
Act 2004 (Remuneration)
Regulations 2007**

Falkirk Council

Title: The Local Governance (Scotland) Act 2004 (Remuneration) Regulations 2007
Meeting: Falkirk Council
Date: 24 May 2017
Submitted by: Director of Corporate & Housing Services

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 This report seeks a decision on those payments to councillors where the level of remuneration lies within the discretion of Council, namely payments to the civic head (Provost) and to senior councillors.

2. Recommendation

2.1 It is recommended that Council:-

- (1) notes that level of remuneration that will be paid to councillors is £16,927 p.a. and the Council leader is £33,857 p.a. in accordance with the Local Governance (Scotland) Act 2004 (Remuneration) Regulations 2007;**
- (2) determines the level of remuneration to be paid to the Provost, and**
- (3) determines the number of senior councillor positions, identifies these positions and the remuneration attached to each.**

3. Background

3.1 The Local Governance (Scotland) Act 2004 (Remuneration) Regulations 2007 (the Regulations) set out that there are four grades of councillor in each local authority for the purposes of payment of remuneration, namely:-

- (a) the Leader of the Council;
- (b) the Civic Head;
- (c) Senior Councillors, and
- (d) Councillors.

3.2 For the purposes of remuneration to councillors, each local authority is banded within one of four bands – A to D. Falkirk Council is a band B authority. This means that the level of remuneration to the Leader of the Council is set at £33,857 p.a. The maximum level of remuneration for the civic head and senior councillors, who can be paid no more than 75% of the Leader of the Council's salary, is £25,392 p.a.

4. Remuneration

Councillors and Council Leader

- 4.1 The basic remuneration to councillors is £16,927 p.a. The current level of remuneration for the position of Leader of the Council is £33,857 p.a. These are both set by the Regulations.

Civic Head

- 4.2 The level of remuneration to the Council's civic head (the Provost) is within the discretion of the Council, within certain parameters. The current maximum payment available to the civic head is £25,392 p.a. At its meeting of 9 March 2016 Council agreed to remunerate the Provost at the level of £23,179 p.a.

Senior Councillors

- 4.3 As a band B authority Falkirk Council may appoint up to 14 senior councillors. The decision on remuneration levels for senior councillors rests with the Council provided that no councillor is paid more than 75% of the Leader's salary and that the total amount to be paid to all senior councillors does not exceed £296,238. This is calculated using a formula set out in the Regulations.
- 4.4 On 9 March 2016 Council agreed payments to senior councillors as:

Senior Councillor (Level 1)	Senior Councillor (Level 2)
£22,689p.a.	£19,020p.a.
Depute Provost	Leader of the main Opposition Group
Economic Development Portfolio Holder	Convener of the Joint Consultative Committee
Education Portfolio Holder	
Environment Portfolio Holder	
Housing Portfolio Holder	
Culture, Leisure & Tourism Portfolio	
Public Protection Portfolio Holder	
Resources Portfolio Holder	
Convener of the Planning Committee	
Convener of the Appeals Committee	
Depute Leader	

Payments to senior councillors amounted to £287,619, which is within the allowable total.

- 4.5 Council should determine how many senior councillors it wishes to appoint, which positions will be assigned senior councillor status and the level of remuneration attached to them.

5. Central Scotland Valuation Joint Board

- 5.1 For information, the Regulations also provide for remuneration to be paid to conveners and vice conveners of joint boards. In practice, this only applies in our area, to the Central Scotland Valuation Joint Board. Payment to the convener is set at £21,160 while for vice conveners the payment is £20,103.

6. Consultation

6.1 This report has not been subject to consultation.

7. Implications

Financial

7.1 There are no financial implications arising from the report.

Resources

7.2 There are no resource implications arising from the report.

Legal

7.3 There are no legal implications arising from the report.

Risk

7.4 There are no risk implications arising from the report.

Equalities

7.5 An equality and poverty impact assessment was not carried out.

Sustainability/Environmental Impact

7.6 No sustainability assessment has been completed as part of compiling the report.

8. Conclusions

8.1 The basic remuneration for councillors and that of the Leader of the Council is fixed by Regulations. However, Council may remunerate its civic head and up to 14 senior councillors.

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Appendices:

None.

List of Background Papers:

No papers were relied on in the preparation of this report in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.