

## **FC85. The Local Governance (Scotland) Act 2004 (Remuneration) Amendment Regulations 2019**

Council considered a report by the Director of Corporate and Housing Services which advised of the changes to the remuneration level for councillors and sought a decision on those payments where the level of remuneration was within the discretion of Council, namely payments to the civic head (Provost) and senior councillors.

For the purposes of remuneration there were four categories of Councillor:-

- the Leader of the Council
- the Civic Head (Provost)
- Senior Councillors
- Councillors.

Remuneration levels were increased annually in line with the percentage increase in the median annual earning of public sector workers in Scotland. For 2019/20 the increase was 2.8% representing the following changes:-

- |                                      |                    |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| • Leader of the Council:             | £33,992 to £34,944 |
| • Civic Head (maximum level):        | £25,494 to £26,208 |
| • Senior Councillors (maximum level) | £25,494 to £26,208 |
| • Councillors                        | £16,994 to £17,470 |

Payments to the Civic Head and Senior Councillors were determined by Council. At its meeting on 7 March 2018 Council agreed to remunerate the position of Provost at a level of £23,272.

As a band B authority the Council was able to appoint up to 14 Senior Councillors provided that no Senior Councillor's payment was more than 75% of the Leader's salary and that the total paid was not in excess of £305,746. At its meeting on 7 March 2018 Council agreed to appoint 11 Senior Councillors (Level 1 £22,780, Level 2 £19,096) with a total remuneration of £228,890. From 27 June 2018 the number of Senior Councillors reduced to ten as the Joint Consultative Committee was dissolved thereby removing the remuneration paid to its Convener.

The remuneration paid to the Convener and Vice Convener of the Central Scotland Valuation Joint Board would increase from £21,245 and £20,183 to £21,840 and £20,748 respectively.

Councillor Meiklejohn, seconded by Councillor Garner, moved that Council:-

- (1) notes the terms of the Local Governance (Scotland) Act 2004 (Remuneration) Amendment Regulations 2019;
- (2) notes the increase in the level of remuneration that will be paid to councillors and the Council Leader, in accordance with the Regulations, and
- (3) agrees to increase the level of remuneration paid to the Provost and senior councillors by 2.8% consistent with the increase applied to councillors and the Council Leader.

Councillor Nicol, seconded by Councillor Goldie, moved as an amendment the terms of the motion subject to the following alteration of clause 3 and inclusion of an additional clause 4, as set out below:-

- (3) agrees to increase the level of remuneration paid to senior councillors by 2.8% consistent with the increase applied to councillors and the Council Leader, and
- (4) agrees to increase the level of remuneration paid to the Provost to £26,208.

Council adjourned at 11.40am and reconvened at 12.05pm with all members present as per the sederunt with the exception of Councillor Coleman.

Councillor Meiklejohn, with the consent of the Provost and Councillor Garner as her seconder, adjusted the terms of her motion to incorporate the terms of the amendment.

### **Decision**

#### **Council:-**

- (1) noted the terms of The Local Governance (Scotland) Act 2004 (Remuneration) Amendment Regulations 2019;**
- (2) noted the increase in the level of remuneration that will be paid to councillors and to the Council leader, in accordance with the Regulations;**
- (3) agreed to increase the level of remuneration paid to senior councillors by 2.8% consistent with the increase applied to councillors and the Council Leader, and**
- (4) agreed to increase the level of remuneration paid to the Provost to £26,208.**