

Birmingham City Council

Report to City Council

9 July 2024



Title:	APPOINTMENTS TO THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL
Lead Cabinet Portfolio:	Councillor Robert Pocock, Cabinet Member for Transformation, Governance and HR
Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee:	N/A
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Authorised by:	Marie Rosenthal, Interim Monitoring Officer & City Solicitor Legal & Governance
Is this a Key Decision?	Not Applicable
If this is a Key Decision, is this decision listed on the Forward Plan?	Not Applicable
Reason(s) why not included on the Forward Plan:	Not Applicable
Is this a Late Report?	No
Reason(s) why Late:	Not Applicable
Is this decision eligible for 'call in?'	Not Applicable
If not eligible, please provide reason(s):	Not Applicable

Wards: All

Does this report contain exempt or confidential information? No

Has this decision been included on the Notification of Intention to consider Matters in Private? Not Applicable

Reasons why not included on the Notification: Not Applicable

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The report seeks to appoint to the Independent Remuneration Panel an Appointed and Co-opted Member.

2 COMMISSIONERS' REVIEW

- 2.1 There were no comments from Commissioners in relation to this report.

3 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That City Council approves the following appointments to the Independent Remuneration Panel

ROLE	APPOINTEE	TERM OF OFFICE
Independent Remuneration Panel – Appointed Member	Dr. Declan Hall	1 September 2024 - 31 August 2028
Independent Remuneration Panel – Co-opted Member (re-appointment)	Former Councillor Peter Fowler	1 September 2024 – 14 September 2026

4 KEY INFORMATION

- 4.1 All members of the Council (“Councillors”) receive a basic allowance. Some members are also paid a special responsibility allowance (SRA) to recognise significant additional responsibilities. SRAs are paid, for example, to members of the council’s Cabinet and the Chairs of Scrutiny Committees. Expenses for travelling subsistence and dependants’ carers’ can be paid to those members who incur expenditure in undertaking particular duties.
- 4.2 In accordance with legal requirements, the City Council has an Independent Remuneration Panel which is made up of people independent from the Council. The City Council may only pay allowances and expenses after first considering a report from its Independent Remuneration Panel.
- 4.3 How much work is required, and how the Panel does that work, in order to produce its report for City Council, is decided by the Panel.
- 4.4 The Panel held 12 meetings from October 2022 to April 2023, to produce its report for allowance for 2023 – 2024. It is anticipated that a similar number of meetings will be held in 2024-2025.
- 4.5 The proposed Co-opted appointee, former Councillor Peter Fowler, attended 11 out of 12 meetings.
- 4.6 Dr Declan Hall, the proposed Appointed Member – refers to a new appointment - nominated due to his Members’ Allowances expertise i.e. an Independent Councillor Remuneration Consultant (self-employed); previous Independent Advisor to Birmingham’s Independent Remuneration Panel and a Lecturer in

Local Government & Politics Institute of Local Government, The University of Birmingham.

- 4.7 The Independent Remuneration Panel is well-established, having been formed by the City Council at its meeting on 3 July 2001. The Independent Remuneration Panel is also responsible for reports to the New Frankly in Birmingham Parish Council and the Royal Sutton Coldfield Town Council.
- 4.8 The panel has eight members, four of which are citizen representatives, two are nominated (appointed) and two are co-opted, nonvoting, members nominated from former Councillors of the City Council who are no longer member of the council.
- 4.9 In Augst 2016, CBM confirmed the above balance of membership, and that each Appointee should be appointed for four years.
- 4.10 The current memberships consist of:

Member	Term of Office Expires
Citizen Representative – Rose Poulter (Chair)	August 2025
Citizen – Catherine McManus	September 2026
Citizen – Muhammad Ali	December 2027
Citizen – Veronica Docherty	December 2027
Appointed – David Grainger	August 2024
Appointed - VACANT	
Co-opted – Carl Rice (Former Councillor)	September 2026
Co-opted – PENDING APPROVAL	

- 4.11 The Co-opted Members are former Councillors of the City Council, with no voting rights and are nominated by the political groups.
- 4.12 The Appointed Members are nominated from the Trade Unions or Business Sector.

5 IMPACT AND IMPLICATIONS

Finance

- 5.1 An allowance of £1,080.00 p.a. is payable to each Panel Member – provided for by the allocated budget.

Legal

- 5.2 The Panel was established in line with the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) Regulations 2001 to produce a report recommending as to the amount of allowances which should be payable to Members in accordance with the Members Allowances Regulations 2003.

Equalities

- 5.3 There are none arising from this report.

Procurement

5.4 This report has no implications to Corporate Procurement.

People Services

5.5 This report has no implications to People Services.

Climate Change, Nature and Net Zero

5.6 This report has no implications to climate change, nature, and net zero.

Corporate Parenting

5.7 This report has no implications to Corporate Parenting.

Other

5.8 No additional implications arising from this report.

6 APPENDICES

6.1 None

7 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 None