

## **Members' Allowance Scheme 2015/16**

At its meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2015 the Fire Authority approved an increase of 2.2% to the Members' Allowance Scheme 2014/15 in accordance with the agreed rates of pay published by National Joint Council for Local Government Services (NJC) on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2014.

### **Basic Allowance**

- 1 Each Member of the Fire Authority shall receive a sum of **£4,078.30** (2015/16) per annum in the form of a Basic Allowance from 1 April 2015. Payment of this Allowance shall be monthly in arrears.

### **Special Responsibility Allowance**

- 2 The following roles shall attract the amounts specified as Special Responsibility Allowances:

<b>Office</b>	<b>2015/16 Entitlement £</b>
<b>Chair of the CFA</b>	<b>13,416.80</b>
<b>Deputy Chair of the CFA</b>	<b>6,709.43</b>
<b>Chair of Performance and Overview Committee</b>	<b>2,683.77</b>
<b>Chair of Governance and Constitution Committee</b>	<b>1,548.33</b>
<b>Business Continuity Leads (Group Spokespersons and Lead Members – Constituent Authorities)</b>	<b>1,032.22</b>
<b>Member Champions (includes Chair of Member Training &amp; Development Group; and Risk Management Board Members)</b>	<b>516.11</b>

- 3 Only one SRA shall be paid to an individual Member. Where a Member holds two or more positions which attract an SRA only the highest amount will be paid. This excludes regional appointments.

### **Regional Appointments**

- 4 Members appointed to the North West Fire Forum will receive a payment of £35 per meeting attended.

### **Independent (non-elected) members**

- 5 Independent (non-elected) members will receive an annual allowance of £1,194.72.

## **Independent Persons**

- 6 Independent Persons will receive a payment of £35 per meeting attended and re-imbusement of expenses incurred (travel/subsistence).

## **Travel, Subsistence and Other Allowances**

### **(a) Travel**

- 7 Members may claim travel expenses for mileage to and from meetings/ events associated with the Fire Authority at the casual user rate. The current rates, as set by the NJC for 2010/11 (*no change for 2015/16*) stands at:

	<b>451 - 999cc</b>	<b>1000 - 1199cc</b>	<b>1200 - 1450cc</b>
<b>per mile first 8,500</b>	46.9p	52.2p	65p
<b>per mile after 8,500</b>	13.7p	14.4p	16.4p

Members may, if they wish, opt to claim the tax-free mileage allowance of 45p per mile.

### **(b) Subsistence**

- 8 As a general rule lunch and other refreshments for meetings held at Fire Service HQ and other Service establishments are provided free of charge and, therefore, no claim for any allowance or reimbursement can be made. This may also include meals/refreshments provided at conferences/ seminars/meetings free of charge at other non Service venues.
- 9 For meetings where refreshments are not provided and Members are required to pay for meals, the actual expenditure will be reimbursed up to a maximum rate. At present these rates are as follows:-
- |                 |     |
|-----------------|-----|
| Breakfast       | £7  |
| Lunch           | £9  |
| Dinner          | £15 |
| Dinner (London) | £20 |

If it is unavoidable and Members need to book their own accommodation the following rates are the maximum that will be paid:

Hotel	£100
Hotel (London)	£120

### **(c) Dependants' Carers' Allowance**

- 10 A Dependants' Carers' allowance is payable to Members where actual costs are incurred for the care of dependent relatives whilst discharging their approved duties for the Fire Authority.

The Dependants' Carers' allowance will be paid up to a maximum per hour of £10.61 (subject to maximum payment of 15 hours per month) and in reimbursement of incurred expenditure against receipts.

## **CHESHIRE FIRE AUTHORITY: LIST OF APPROVED DUTIES**

- Attendance at meetings of the Fire Authority, Committees, Sub-Committees, Special Committees, Panels, Boards, Forums and Working/Task Groups
- Authorised briefings for Committees/Sub-Committees including all meetings which are called by officers e.g. Members Planning Days and pre-meeting briefings
- All approved conferences and seminars
- Regional Bodies - North West Fire Forum, NW Fire Control Ltd Board of Directors and associated working groups
- National Bodies – LGA Fire Commission and associated working groups
- Member Learning and Development Events (including induction and attendance at cluster exercises)

In addition to the above, the Chair or his nominee, attend other functions on behalf of the Fire Authority and in these circumstances these are regarded as approved duties for the purpose of the Members' Allowance Scheme.