

**YORKSHIRE DALES NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY  
FINANCE AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

13th February 2006

**SCHEME OF MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES 2006/2007**

**Purpose of report**

To consider recommendations regarding the rates of allowance to apply to the Scheme for 2006/2007.

**Strategic Planning Framework**

The information and recommendation(s) contained in this report are consistent with the Authority's statutory purposes and its approved strategic planning framework.

**Background**

In March 2003, the Authority adopted a revised scheme of allowances for members in the light of draft revised regulations. The main change that resulted from the new regulations was the abolition of the option to pay members a 'per meeting' attendance allowance and the requirement to adopt a scheme that included a basic annual allowance for each member.

Members, whilst adopting the new scheme, requested that an independent review be undertaken. Following that review, by the Local Government Management Board (LGMB) for Yorkshire and Humberside, a revised Scheme was adopted by this Committee in November 2003.

**Rates of Allowances for 2006/2007**

When the Scheme was considered in 2003, one of the recommendations that was adopted was that various allowances would be index-linked to the annual staff salary increase awarded to spinal column point 34 of the National Local Government pay spine. The last such increase was 2.95% and, therefore, that rate will be applied to the following allowances as indicated:

<b><i>Allowance</i></b>	<b><i>Current rate</i></b>	<b><i>Proposed rate</i></b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Basic Allowance (BA)	2,570	2646
<i>Special Responsibility Allowances:</i>		
❖ Chairman of the Authority (BA x 2)	5,140	5292
❖ Deputy Chairman of the Authority (BA x 0.5)	1,285	1323
❖ Planning Committee Chairman (BA x 0.75)	1,930	1987
❖ Planning Committee Deputy Chairman (BA x 0.4)	1,030	1060
❖ IEG Working Group Nominee (BA x 0.4)	1,030	1060
Co-optee's Allowance	137	141

The rates payable for subsistence and overnight absence set out in the scheme are the same rates currently paid to staff and no changes are proposed at present. These rates are negotiated nationally each year and incorporate an appropriate element for inflation.

## **Conclusions**

Attached, as an **Annex**, is a copy of the current Scheme.

In addition to the above changes, the following minor textual changes are recommended for inclusion:

- Paragraph 6.2 - the amount should be £3.40 (as in Appendix B)
- Paragraph 9.1 – delete reference to ‘DCA’ and reword accordingly (this referred to the ‘Dependent Carer’s Allowance’ and was deleted from the Scheme last year).

## **RECOMMENDATION**

That:

- (a) the amendments to the Scheme of Members’ Allowances for 2006/2007 in respect of the revised rates of Basic, Special Responsibility and Co-optees Allowances be noted;
- (b) the textual changes set out above be approved; and
- (c) the necessary amendments be made and the Members’ Handbook be updated accordingly.

RICHARD PARKIN  
SECRETARIAT OFFICER

Background document: None

24th January 2006