

6. Civic Dignitaries' Allowances

The Council is empowered under s3(5) and s 5(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 to pay to the Mayor and Deputy Mayor an allowance which it thinks reasonable for the purposes of meeting the expenses of those offices. This is often known as a 'civic dignitaries' allowance'. It was agreed at Council on 3 December 2003 that the civic dignitaries allowances paid to the Mayor and Deputy Mayor be set at £10,967 and £3,655 respectively, with effect from 21 May 2003 and that these allowances would be indexed from the annual meeting each year, on the same basis as Members' Basic and Special Responsibility Allowances (see section 18).

The Mayor and Deputy Mayor will receive the Civic Dignitaries Allowance in addition to any Special Responsibility Allowance they are eligible for. These allowances do not fall within the remit of the Independent Remuneration Panel and the level at which they are set is a matter for the Council to determine. The current allowances are as specified in Schedule 1 of this Scheme.

Therefore both the Mayor and Deputy Mayor receive an allowance which is meant to cover all incidental expenses incurred during the Mayoral year excluding mileage to formal engagement duties both within and outside the borough but otherwise on the same terms as the Members' Allowances Scheme (see section 12).