

# BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

## MEMBERS' SCHEDULE OF REMUNERATION

This Scheme is made under the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011. With regard to Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales (IRPW) Regulations which apply to payments made to members and co-opted members of local authorities.

### 1. Basic Salary

- 1.1 A Basic Salary shall be paid to each elected Member of the Authority not in receipt of a Senior Salary or Civic Salary as set out in **Schedule1**.
- 1.2 In accordance with the Regulations, the rate of the Basic Salary shall be reviewed annually as determined by the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales.
- 1.3 Where the term of office of a Member begins or ends other than at the beginning or end of a year, his/her entitlement to the Basic Salary will be pro-rata.
- 1.4 No more than one Basic Salary is payable to a Member of the Authority.

### 2. Senior Salaries & Civic Salaries

- 2.1 Members occupying specific posts shall be paid a Senior Salary as set out in **Schedule 1**.
- 2.2 In accordance with the Regulations, the rates of Senior Salaries and Civic Salaries shall be reviewed annually as determined by the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales.
- 2.3 Only one Senior Salary or Civic Salary is payable to a Member of the Authority.
- 2.4 A Member of the Authority cannot be paid a Senior Salary and a Civic Salary.
- 2.5 All Senior and Civic Salaries are paid inclusive of Basic Salary.
- 2.6 A Senior Salary may not be paid to more than fifty percent of the Members of the Authority, except to include a temporary Senior Salary office holder providing temporary cover for the family absence of the appointed office holder.
- 2.7 A Member of the Authority in receipt of a Senior Salary **cannot** receive a salary from any National Park Authority (NPA) or Fire and Rescue Authority (FRA) for which he/she has been nominated.
- 2.8 Where the term of Senior Salary or Civic Salary of a Member begins or ends other than at the beginning or end of a year, his/her entitlement to the Salary will be pro-rata.

### 3. Election to Forgo Entitlement to Allowance

- 3.1 A Member may, by notice in writing delivered to the Monitoring Officer, elect to forgo any part of his/her entitlement to any salary, allowance or fee payable under this Scheme from the date set out in the notice.

### 4. Suspension of a Member

- 4.1 Where a Member of the Authority is suspended or partially suspended from his or her responsibilities or duties as a Member of the Authority in accordance with Part III of the Local Government Act 2000 (Conduct of Members), or regulations made under the Act, the part of

the Basic Salary payable to him/her in respect of that period for which he or she is suspended will be withheld by the Authority (Section 155 (1) of the Measure).

4.2 Where a Member in receipt of a Senior Salary is suspended or partially suspended from being a Member of the Authority in accordance with Part III of the Local Government Act 2000 (Conduct of Members), or regulations made under the Act, the Authority must not make payments of the Member's Senior Salary for the duration of the suspension (Section 155 (1) of the Measure). If the partial suspension relates only to the specific responsibility element of the payment, the member may retain the Basic Salary.

## **5. Repayment of salaries, allowances or fees**

5.1 Where payment of any salary, allowance or fee has been made to a Member of the Authority or Co-opted Member in respect of any period during which the Member concerned:

- (a) is suspended or partially suspended from that Member's/Co-opted Member's duties or responsibilities in accordance with Part 3 of the 2000 Act or regulations made under that Act;
- (b) ceases to be a Member of the Authority or Co-opted Member; or
- (c) is in any other way not entitled to receive a salary, allowance or fee in respect of that period,

the Authority will require that such part of the allowance as relates to any such period be repaid.

## **6. Payments**

6.1 Payments of all allowances will be made by the Chief Finance Officer by direct bank credit in instalments of one-twelfth of the Member's annual entitlement on the 18th of each month.

6.2 Where payment has resulted in a Member receiving more than his/her entitlement to salaries, allowances or fees the Authority will require that such part that is overpayment be repaid.

6.3 All payments are subject to the appropriate tax and National Insurance deductions.

## **7. Dependents – Costs of Care**

7.1 Reimbursement for the cost of Care shall be made to a Member or Co-opted Member, who has caring responsibility for dependent children or adults, provided the Member incurs expenses in the provision of such care whilst undertaking 'approved' council duties.

7.2 Costs of Care applies in respect of children who are aged 15 or under and other persons for whom the Member or Co-opted Member can show that care is required. If a Member or Co-opted Member has more than one dependent the Member may claim more than one allowance, provided the Member can demonstrate a need to make separate arrangements for care.

7.3 Eligible Members may claim Care costs for actual and receipted costs up to a maximum amount not exceeding that determined by the Independent Remuneration Panel as set out in **Schedule 1**. All claims for Care Costs should be made in writing to Democratic Services detailing times, dates and reasons for claim. Receipts are required for both informal and formal care arrangements.

## **8. Personal- Costs of Care**

- 8.1 Reimbursement for the cost of Personal Care shall be paid to a Member or Co-opted Member, who has personal assistance costs, provided the Member incurs expenses in respect of personal assistance whilst undertaking 'approved' council duties.
- 8.2 Eligible Members may claim Personal Care costs for actual and receipted costs up to a maximum amount not exceeding that determined by the Independent Remuneration Panel as set out in **Schedule 1**. All claims for Care costs should be made in writing to Democratic Services detailing times, dates and reasons for claim. Receipts are required for both informal and formal care arrangements.

## **9. Family Absence**

- 9.1 Members are entitled under the provisions of the Family Absence for Members of Local Authorities (Wales) Regulations 2013 to a period of family absence, during which if they satisfy the prescribed conditions they are entitled to be absent from Authority meetings.
- 9.2 When taking family absence Members are entitled to retain a basic salary irrespective of their attendance record immediately preceding the commencement of the family absence.
- 9.3 Should a senior salary holder be eligible for family absence they will be able to continue to receive their senior salary for the duration of the absence.
- 9.4 If the Authority agrees that it is necessary to make a substitute appointment to cover the family absence of a senior salary holder the Member substituting will be eligible if the authority so decides to be paid a senior salary.
- 9.5 If the paid substitution results in the Authority exceeding its maximum number of senior salaries, an addition to the maximum will be allowed for the duration of the substitution.

## **10. Sickness Absence**

- 10.2 A senior salary holder on long term sickness can if the Authority determines continue to receive remuneration for the post held subject to the following provisions.
- 10.2 Long term sickness absence is defined as certified absences in excess of 4 weeks.
- 10.3 The maximum length of sickness absence is 26 weeks or until the individual's term of office ends, whichever is sooner (if reappointed any remaining balance of the 26 weeks will be included)
- 10.4 The Authority can if it so decides make a substitute appointment to cover the absence and the substitute will be eligible to be paid the senior salary appropriate to the post
- 10.5 If the paid substitution results in the Authority exceeding the maximum number of senior salaries payable, an addition will be allowed for the duration of the substitution.
- 10.6 If the Authority agrees to make a substitution the IRP must be informed within 14 days of the decision of the details, including the name of the post and the estimated length of the substitution. The Authority's Schedule of Remuneration must be amended accordingly.
- 10.7 Sickness absence does not apply to elected members who are not senior post holders.

## **11. Co-optees' payments**

- 11.1 A Co-optees' fee with a provision for full day, half day or hourly payments shall be paid to Co-optees, provided they are statutory Co-optees with voting rights.
- 11.2 Co-optees' payments will be capped at a maximum of the equivalent of 10 full days a year for each committee to which an individual may be co-opted.
- 11.3 Payments will take into consideration travelling time to and from the place of the meeting, reasonable time for pre meeting preparation and length of meeting (up to the maximum of the daily rate).
- 11.4 The Monitoring Officer is designated as the "appropriate officer" and will determine preparation time, travelling time and length of meeting, the fee will be paid on the basis of this determination.
- 11.5 The Monitoring Officer can determine in advance whether a meeting is programmed for a full day and the fee will be paid on the basis of this determination even if the meeting finishes before four hours has elapsed. The Monitoring Officer can also determine that an hourly rate be applied where it is sensible to aggregate a number of short meetings.
- 11.6 A half day meeting is defined as up to 4 hours.
- 11.7 A full day meeting is defined as over 4 hours.
- 11.8 The daily, half day and hourly fees for the Chairpersons of the Standards Committee and Audit Committee, as determined by the Independent Remuneration Panel, are set out in **Schedule 1**.
- 11.9 The daily, half day and hourly fees for other statutory Co-optees with voting rights, as determined by the Independent Remuneration Panel, are set out in **Schedule 1**.

## **12. Travel and Subsistence Allowances**

### **12.1 General Principles**

- 12.2 Members, Co-opted Members and Members of Educational Appeals Panels may claim travelling expenses when travelling on the Authority's business for 'approved duties' as set out in **Schedule 2**. Where Members travel on the Authority's business they are expected to travel by the most cost effective means. In assessing cost effectiveness regard will be given to journey time. A Member who does not travel by the most cost effective means may have his/her claim abated by an appropriate amount.
- 12.3 Where possible Members should share transport.
- 12.4 The distance claimed for mileage should be the shortest reasonable journey by road from the point of departure to the point at which the duty is performed, and similarly from the duty point to the place of return.
- 12.5 The rates of Members' Travel and Subsistence Allowances are set out in **Schedule 3** and are subject to annual review by the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales.
- 12.6 Where a Member is suspended or partially suspended from his or her responsibilities or duties as a Member of the Authority in accordance with Part III of the Local Government Act 2000 (Conduct of Members), or regulations made under the Act, any travel and subsistence allowances payable to him/her in respect of that period for which he or she is suspended or partially suspended must be withheld by the Authority.

12.7 “Approved duties” as set out in **Schedule 2** does not include constituency responsibilities.

### **13. Travel by Private Vehicle**

- 13.1 The Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales has determined that the maximum travel rates payable should be the rates set out by Her Majesty's Revenue & Customs for the use of private cars, motor cycles and pedal cycles plus any passenger supplement.
- 13.2 The mileage rates for private vehicles as determined by the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales are set out in **Schedule 3**.
- 13.3 Where a Member makes use of his/her private vehicle for approved duty purposes, the vehicle must be insured for business use. Proof of appropriate insurance must be provided to the Authority on request.
- 13.4 Mileage allowances can only be paid where claims are accompanied by VAT fuel receipts. The receipt date must be prior to the time/date of the journey for which allowances are being claimed.

### **14. Travel by Public Transport**

#### **14.1 Rail/Coach Travel**

Democratic Services will purchase requisite rail and coach tickets for Members in advance of journeys. Unless otherwise authorised rail tickets will be second-class. In the unlikely event that a Member needs to purchase a ticket directly, payment will be reimbursed upon production of the used ticket and/or a receipt.

#### **14.2 Taxi Fares**

Taxi fares will only be reimbursed where their use has been authorised for cases of urgency or where no public transport is reasonably available. Re-imbursement will be upon receipt only.

#### **14.3 Air Fare**

Travel by air is permissible if it is the most cost effective means of transport. Authorisation of the Monitoring Officer is required and tickets will be purchased by Democratic Services.

#### **14.4 Travel Abroad**

Travel abroad on the Authority's business will only be permitted where authorised by the Monitoring Officer. Democratic Services will arrange travel and accommodation.

#### **14.5 Other Travel Expenses**

Members will be entitled to reimbursement of toll fees, parking fees, overnight garaging and other necessary travel associated expenses. Re-imbursement will be upon receipt only.

### **15. Overnight Accommodation**

- 15.1 Overnight stays will only be permitted where the Authority's business extends to two days or more, or the venue is at such a distance that early morning or late night travel would be

unreasonable. All overnight stays must receive prior authorisation from the Monitoring Officer.

- 15.2 Overnight accommodation will be booked by Democratic Services. Wherever possible the overnight accommodation will be pre-paid or invoiced. Where this is not possible a cheque payable to the establishment will be provided to the Member prior to travel.
- 15.3 Direct booking of overnight accommodation by a Member will only be permitted in the event of an emergency. Reimbursement will only be made upon the production of a receipt and will be at a level deemed reasonable and not in excess of the rates set out in **Schedule 3**.

## **16 Subsistence Allowance**

- 16.1 The day subsistence rate to meet the costs of meals and refreshments in connection with approved duties (including breakfast when not provided as part of overnight accommodation) is set out in **Schedule 3**. The maximum daily rate covers a 24 hour period and can be claimed for any meal that is relevant, providing such a claim is supported by receipt(s)
- 16.2 No provision is made for subsistence claims within the County Borough.

## **17. Claims and Payments**

- 17.1 A claim for travel and subsistence allowances must be made in writing within two months of the end of the calendar month in which entitlement to allowances arises and must be accompanied by the relevant receipts.
- 17.2 Allowances will be paid by the Chief Finance Officer by direct bank credit.

## **18. Pensions**

- 18.1 The Authority shall enable its Members who are eligible to join the Local Government Pension Scheme.

## **19. Compliance**

- 19.1 In accordance with the Regulations, the Authority must comply with the requirements of the Panel in respect of the monitoring and publication of payments made to members and co-opted members as set out in **Schedule 4**.

**Members are reminded that expense claims are subject to both internal and external audit.**

## SCHEDULE 1

### SCHEDULE OF REMUNERATION 2025-2026

MEMBERS ENTITLED TO BASIC SALARY	ANNUAL AMOUNT OF BASIC SALARY
All non senior/civic salary holders:	£19,771

### SENIOR SALARIES ENTITLEMENTS

	ROLE	MEMBER	ANNUAL AMOUNT OF SENIOR SALARY
1.	Leader		£66,727
2.	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Social Services, Health & Wellbeing		£46,709
3.	Cabinet Member for Finance & Performance		£40,036
4.	Cabinet Member for Education & Youth Services		£40,036
5.	Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Economic Development and Housing		£40,036
6.	Cabinet Member for Climate Change and the Environment		£40,036
7.	Cabinet Member for Resources		£40,036
8.	Chairperson Overview and Scrutiny Subject Committee		£29,657
9.	Chairperson Overview and Scrutiny Subject Committee		£29,657
10.	Chairperson Overview and Scrutiny Subject Committee		£29,657
11.	Chairperson of Development Control Committee		£29,657
12.	Chairperson of Licensing Committee		£29,657
13.	Chairperson of the Appeals Panel		£29,657
14.	Leader Of The Largest Opposition Group		£29,657
15.	Leader of an opposition group with at least 10% of the membership of the Council		£23,726
16.	Not currently used		
17.	Not currently used		
18.	Not currently used		

A maximum of 18 Senior salaries for Bridgend County Borough Council may be paid

## ENTITLEMENT TO CIVIC SALARIES

ROLE	MEMBER	ANNUAL AMOUNT OF CIVIC SALARY
Civic Head (Mayor)		£29,657
Deputy Civic Head (Deputy Mayor)		£23,726

## ENTITLEMENT AS STATUTORY CO-OPTEES

ROLE	MEMBER	AMOUNT OF CO-OPTEES ALLOWANCES
Chairperson Of Standards Committee		£268 Daily Fee £134 ½ Day Fee £33.50 Hourly Fee
Chairperson of Audit Committee		£268 Daily Fee £134 ½ Day Fee £33.50 Hourly Fee
Statutory Co-optees - Standards Committee, Scrutiny Committee – subject 1, Audit Committee, Crime and Disorder OVSC	Standards: <u>Scrutiny</u> <u>Audit</u>	£210 Daily Fee £105 ½ Day Fee £26.25 Hourly Fee
Statutory Co-optees -ordinary members of Standards Committee who also chair Standards Committees for Community Councils		£238 Daily Fee £119 ½ Day Fee £29.75 Hourly Fee
Lay Chairs of CJC Committees		£268 Daily Fee £134 ½ Day Fee £33.50 Hourly Fee
Ordinary Lay Members with Voting Rights of CJC Committees		£238 Daily Fee £119 ½ Day Fee £29.75 Hourly Fee

**MEMBERS ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE COSTS OF CARE (Dependents/Personal Assistance)**

All Members

- Formal (registered with Care Inspectorate Wales) care costs to be paid as evidenced.
- Informal (unregistered) care costs to be paid up to a maximum rate equivalent to the Real UK Living Wage at the time the costs are incurred.

## **SCHEDULE 2**

**Approved duties:** -

- attendance at a meeting of the Authority or of any committee of the Authority or of any body to which the Authority makes appointments or nominations or of any committee of such a body;
- attendance at a meeting of any association of authorities of which the Authority is a member;
- attendance at any other meeting the holding of which is authorised by the Authority or by a committee of the Authority or by a joint committee of the Authority and one or more other Authorities;
- a duty undertaken for the purpose of or in connection with the discharge of the functions of Cabinet;
- a duty undertaken in pursuance of a standing order which requires a Member or Members to be present when tender documents are opened;
- a duty undertaken in connection with the discharge of any function of the Authority which empowers or requires the Authority to inspect or authorise the inspection of premises;
- attendance at any training or developmental event approved by the Authority or its Cabinet;
- the following duties which have been approved by Council:
  - Approved conferences;
  - Rota visits to Social Services establishments;
  - Meetings with Senior Officers;
  - Attendance at Civic Offices to welcome school visits provided the school is within the Member's ward.

Where a local authority association or other outside body has its own scheme for the payment of allowances, the Member should claim his/her travelling and subsistence from the other body and not from the Authority.

## **SCHEDULE 3**

**Mileage Rates 2023-24**

	<b>MILEAGE RATES</b>
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All sizes of private motor vehicle Up to 10,000 miles Over 10,000 miles	45 pence per mile 25 pence per mile
Private Motor Cycles Pedal Cycles	24 pence per mile 20 pence per mile
Passenger supplement	05 pence per mile

## **Subsistence Allowance 2023/24**

The day subsistence rate is up to a maximum of £28 and covers a 24 hour period and can be claimed for any meal if relevant provided such a claim is supported by receipts.

Re-imbursement of alcoholic drinks is not permitted.

## **Overnight Stay**

The maximum allowances for an overnight stay are £200 for London and £95 for elsewhere. A maximum of £30 is available for an overnight stay with friends or relatives whilst on approved duty.

## **SCHEDULE 4**

### **Compliance**

- The Authority will arrange for the publication on the council's website the total sum paid by it to each member and co-opted member in respect of salary, allowances, fees and reimbursements no later than 30 September following the close of the year to which it relates. In the interests of transparency this will include remuneration from all public service appointments held by elected members.
- The Authority will publish on the council's website a statement of the basic responsibility of a councillor and role descriptors for senior salary office holders, which clearly identify the duties expected.
- The Authority will publish on the council's website the annual schedule of Member Remuneration not later than 31 July of the year to which the schedule refers.
- The Authority will send a copy of the schedule to the Remuneration Panel no later than 31 July of the year to which the schedule refers.
- The Authority will maintain records of member/co-opted members attendance at meetings of council, cabinet and committees and other approved duties for which a member/co-opted member submits a claim for reimbursement.
- The Authority will arrange for the publication on the council's website of Annual Reports prepared by members.
- When the Authority agrees a paid substitution for family absence it will notify the Remuneration Panel within 14 days of the date of the decision of the details including the particular post and the duration of the substitution.