

TONBRIDGE AND MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

SCHEME OF MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES

LOCAL AUTHORITIES (MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES) (ENGLAND) REGULATIONS 2003

The current Scheme of Members' Allowances was adopted by the Council on 11 July 2023 following consideration of recommendations of an Independent Remuneration Panel. The Scheme provides for the indexation of basic and special responsibility allowances in line with any staff pay award and the relevant allowances with effect from 1 April 2025 are set out below:

	Panel Recommendations 2023/24	Resolved Allowances 2025/26 ⁽⁴⁾
	£	£
Basic Allowance to all Councillors	5,175	5,592
Special Responsibility Allowances (SRA):		
Leader	20,706	22,372.20
Deputy Leader	10,353	16,777.32
Opposition Group Leader(s):		
• Liberal Democrat	4,401#	4,755.60#
• Independent Alliance Kent	N/A	4,755.60#*
• The Green Party	4,401#	4,755.60#
• The Labour Party	N/A	4,755.60#
# Fixed lump sum		
Cabinet Member	8,802	9,150.60
Chair:		
Overview & Scrutiny Committee	2,589	2,797.80
Joint Standards Committee	2,589	2,797.80
Licensing & Appeals Committee	2,589	2,797.80
General Purposes Committee	1,725	1,725.00*
Audit Committee	2,589	2,797.80

	Panel Recommendations 2023	Resolved Allowances 2025/26⁽⁴⁾
	£	£
Area Planning Committees x 3	1,725	1,863.84
Programmed Scrutiny Select Committee x 3	2,589	2,797.80
Vice Chair:		
Overview & Scrutiny Committee x 2	0	699.60
Joint Standards Committee	0	699.60
Licensing & Appeals Committee	0	699.60
General Purposes Committee	0	465.84
Audit Committee	0	699.60
Area Planning Committees x 3	0	465.84
Programmed Scrutiny Select Committee x 3	0	699.60

Opposition Group Leader allowance made up of £4,401 fixed lump sum. To qualify, neither the leader of an opposition group nor any members of the opposition leader's group can serve on Cabinet. The Opposition Group Leaders are eligible to receive a maximum of 1 Special Responsibility Allowance in addition to their group leader's allowance.

*Leader of opposition group Cabinet member allowance not paid/Cllr waiving full allowance.

The Panel also recommended that:

- (1) Childcare and Dependent Carers allowances be set at a maximum of £10.42 per hour and £18 per hour respectively.
- (2) Mileage allowances be set at HMRC rates.
- (3) Scheme for meal and/or subsistence allowances ceased with effect from 11 July 2023.
- (4) Principle of annual indexation of allowances, including allowances for Mayor and Deputy Mayor, in line with the staff pay award be retained.
- (5) Individual members should not receive more than one Special Responsibility Allowance, excluding Opposition Group Leaders.
- (6) The Independent Remuneration Panel's report is available for inspection by members of the public on the Council's website at www.tmbc.gov.uk or during normal office hours at the Council's principal office at Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent ME19 4LZ.

Damian Roberts
Chief Executive
July 2025

