

NORTH WALES FIRE AUTHORITY

20 DECEMBER 2004

SCHEME OF MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES

Report by the Clerk

Purpose of Report

- 1 To approve the scheme of members' allowances.

Background

- 2 The Local Authorities (Allowances for Members of Fire Authorities) (Wales) Regulations 2004 requiring a scheme to be prepared were approved by the Assembly on 28 September and came into force the following day. The Fire Authority resolved at its meeting on 20 September that it wished to apply a scheme from 29 September. The legislation does not permit the scheme to come into effect before that date.

Advice

- 3 The Executive Panel recommended the attached scheme at its meeting on 18 October.
- 4 There are two matters to draw to the authority's attention:
 - 4.1 the allowances could give rise to taxation implications for individual members: it is their responsibility to make sure that any liability to tax is appropriately discharged;
 - 4.2 following further consideration of the circumstances affecting some areas of North Wales where public transport journeys are technically possible but impractical for reasons of time etc., it is proposed to add the following words at the end of paragraph 6.6 "unless the use of a car for the entire journey has been approved by a member of the Executive Group". The attached scheme includes this proposed wording.

Financial implications

- 5 The estimated financial implications of the recommended scheme and current level of budget provision are:

	2004-05	£	2005-06	£
Fire authority, chairperson's and vice-chairperson's allowances		24,040		47,700
Travel and subsistence		12,175		20,000
Total		36,215		67,700
Budget		60,650		67,700

Recommendation

- 6 That the Fire Authority approves the attached scheme of allowances for members with effect from 29 September 2004 (1 October 2004 in respect of the travel and subsistence allowances).