

COUNCIL ASSEMBLY

24 MARCH 2021

QUESTIONS ON REPORTS

ITEM 6.2: MEMBER ALLOWANCES SCHEME 2021-2022

1. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR ANOOD AL-SAMERAI

Following his resignation from the Cabinet, what is the value of the 'loss of office' payment that Cllr Leo Pollak (former Cabinet Member for Housing and previously Cabinet Member Social Regeneration, Great Estates and New Council Homes) is entitled to under 'Payment to cabinet members for loss of office'?

RESPONSE

Full details on loss of office payments can be found in the Member Allowance Scheme: http://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/documents/s94015/Members%20Allowances%20Scheme_October%202020.pdf

2. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR HUMAIRA ALI

If a Cabinet Member has resigned their post or lost office due to a serious error of judgement, misconduct or even bringing the council into some form of disrepute, does the Leader believe they should be entitled to a 'Payment to cabinet members for loss of office' or should they forfeit such entitlement?

RESPONSE

To ensure openness and transparency, the council's rules on payments to councillors, including eligibility for loss of office payments, are detailed in the Member Allowance Scheme, which is agreed annually by Council Assembly and published on the Council website. All councillors should ensure any allowance claims they make are in line with the current published policy: http://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/documents/s94015/Members%20Allowances%20Scheme_October%202020.pdf

3. QUESTION TO THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FROM COUNCILLOR HAMISH McCALLUM

What payments for 'Payment to cabinet members for loss of office' have been made in 2019/20 and 2020/21 years and to whom?

RESPONSE

All allowance payments to councillors are published annually, since April 2019 this has included a total of three payments under the loss of office policy in the council's Member Allowance Scheme. The payments are gross and subject to tax and other deductions, these are:

Cllr Peter John £13,911.26

Cllr Richard Livingstone £9,337.25

Cllr Victoria Mills £7,900.75