

# The Highland Council

21 January 2016

Agenda Item	6
Report No	HC/60 /15

## Remuneration of Senior Councillors

### Report by the Director of Finance

#### Summary

The purpose of this report is to review and approve a revised list of Senior Councillor posts.

#### 1. Background

- 1.1 The payment of remuneration to Senior Councillors is regulated by The Local Governance (Scotland) Act 2004 (Remuneration) Regulations 2007 and subsequent updates.
- 1.2 The legislation provides that all Scottish Councils are placed in one of four bands and the number of allowable Senior Councillors and the financial quantum for individual Councils is determined by their Band.
- 1.3 Highland Council is in Band C and can have a Leader, Civic Head and 19 Senior Councillors. The financial quantum for the 19 Senior Councillors is £436,939.

#### 2. Proposals for a Revised List of Senior Councillors

- 2.1 The proposed, and the current list, of Senior Councillors are attached at Annex 1.
- 2.2 The changes proposed are:-
  - The creation of Chair and Vice Chair posts for the Communities and Partnership Committee.
  - The establishment of the Audit and Scrutiny Committee as a full Strategic Committee with a Chair and Vice Chair.
  - The deletion of the Leader posts in Lochaber and Skye, Ross and Cromarty.
- 2.3 The Leader posts in Caithness and Sutherland and Nairn, Badenoch and Strathspey were deleted at the Council Meeting in October.
- 2.4 The total number of proposed Senior Councillor posts is 17, at a cost of £395,592 which is within both quantum and represents a reduction of 1 post and £29,876 on the position agreed in June 2015.

#### 3. Implications

- 3.1 There are no specific implications to highlight in this report.

**Recommendation**

Members are asked to approve the proposed list of Senior Councillor posts attached at Annex 1.

Designation: Director of Finance

Date: 8 December 2015

Author: David Robertson, Head of Corporate Finance

Background Papers: None

## Proposed Senior Councillor's Remuneration

Annex 1

	Proposed		Dec-15		Approved		Jun-15	
	No	Salary	No	Salary	No	Salary	No	Salary
Council Leader	1	39,029			1	39,029		
Convenor - Civic Head	1	29,272			1	29,272		
<b>Sub Total Leader and Civic Head</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>68,301</b>			<b>2</b>	<b>68,301</b>		
Depute Council Leader	1	29,272			1	29,272		
Chair of Resources	1	25,222			1	25,222		
Chair of Education, Children and Adult Services	1	25,222			1	25,222		
Chair of Planning, Development & Infrastructure	1	25,222			1	25,222		
Chair of Community Services	1	25,222			1	25,222		
Vice - Resources	1	20,568			1	20,568		
Vice - Education, Children and Adult Services	1	20,568			1	20,568		
Vice - Education, Children and Adult Services	1	20,568			1	20,568		
Vice - Planning Development & Infrastructure	1	20,568			1	20,568		
Vice - Community Services	1	20,568			1	20,568		
Chair of Communities and Partnerships	1	25,222			0	0		
Vice Chair of Communities and Partnerships	1	20,568			0	0		
Chair of Licensing Committee and Board	1	20,568			1	20,568		
Chair of Audit and Scrutiny	1	25,222			1	20,568		
Vice Chair of Audit and Scrutiny	1	20,568			0	0		
Leader of Opposition	1	25,222			1	25,222		
Leader - Inverness	1	25,222			1	25,222		
Leader - Caithness and Sutherland	0	0			1	25,222		
Leader - Nairn, Badenoch and Strathspey	0	0			1	25,222		
Leader - Lochaber	0	0			1	25,222		
Leader - Skye, Ross and Cromarty	0	0			1	25,222		
<b>Sub Total Senior Councillors</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>395,592</b>			<b>18</b>	<b>425,468</b>		
<b>Grand Total (including Leader and Civic Head)</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>463,893</b>			<b>20</b>	<b>493,769</b>		
<b>Quantum Totals for Senior Councillors</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>436,939</b>			<b>19</b>	<b>436,939</b>		