

**SOUTH EAST ENGLAND COUNCILS EXECUTIVE MEETING**

Date: 16 October 2009

Subject: **Members' Allowances - Updated Report**

Report of: Diana Pogson, Interim Managing Director, Partnership Board Strategy Unit

**Recommendation:**

That the SEEC Executive agrees a structure and the level of members' allowances to run from August 2009 to July 2010 for SEEC members attending the South East England Leaders' Board, Partnership Board, Strategy Board, Regional Housing and Regeneration Board, Regional Transport Board, Regional Economic Development and Skills Board and the Planning Panel.

**Purpose of Report:**

To set out the key issues relating to members' allowances, together with a proposed level of payments (attached), to enable the SEEC Executive to discuss and agree allowances to be paid for the 12 months from August 2009 to July 2010.

**Key Issues:**

The budget for the Partnership Board Strategy Unit for the financial year 2009/10 includes an amount of £50,000 for members' allowances. The Strategy Unit is funded by CLG for carrying out work on the Regional Strategy (and residual work on the South East Plan) and the budget was therefore approved by CLG.

There is less funding than previously available this year for members' allowances and more SEEC members will be attending more meetings relating to the Regional Strategy than anticipated when the budget was set. The attached proposal will actually cost £64,000 in a full year, but the cost incurred in this financial year will be a maximum of £50,500 as Assembly allowances continued to be paid until July 2009 (from the 2008/09 Assembly funding).

The structure of allowances previously paid by the Regional Assembly has been used in the attached proposal. If members do not wish to claim an allowance, they are able to opt out by informing the Strategy Unit Office Manager.

The following issues need resolving:

1. Should members be entitled to multiple allowances? If so, should there be a limit on the maximum payable?
2. Should there be a link between the payment of an allowance and attendance at meetings? For example, should the full allowance only be paid if a member has attended at least 75% of meetings during the year?

**South East England Leaders' Board (SEELB)  
Members' Allowances - proposed level of payments -  
October 2009**

<b>Role</b>	<b>Allowance payable for 12 months - August to July</b>
	<b>£</b>
Chairman of SEELB (to cover SEELB, Partnership and Strategy Board meetings)	12,000
Vice-Chair of SEELB (to cover SEELB, Partnership and Strategy Board meetings)	6,000
Member of SEELB	500
Member of Partnership Board	500
Member of Strategy Board	500
Chairman of Regional Transport Board (to cover SEELB, RTB and Strategy Board)	5,000
Member of Regional Transport Board	500
Chairman of Housing and Regeneration Board (to cover SEELB, RHB and Strategy Board)	5,000
Member of Housing and Regeneration Board	500
Member of Economic Development and Skills Board	500
Chairman of Planning Panel (to cover SEELB, Planning Panel and Strategy Board)	5,000
Member of Planning Panel	500