

Item 9 - Question Time

Response to Ms J Douglas

The number of senior councillors and their remuneration is controlled by the Scottish Government through the “The Local Government (Scotland) Act 2004 (Remuneration) Regulations 2007”.

Highland Council is permitted a Leader and Civic Head plus 19 other senior members. The salary for the Leader (£38,642) and Civic Head (£28,982) are fixed and the total cash quantum for the 19 senior councillors is £432,642.

The Council currently has 18 paid posts with a total cost of £421,250, however the actual cost is further reduced to £400,886 as the Chair of Resources is also the Chair of Licencing at present.

A Councillor with no added responsibility payment receives a remuneration of £16,560 per annum.

The attached spreadsheet shows the current list of senior posts both paid and unpaid and includes the remuneration for the Leader and Convener. The total cost of the structure is £488,874.

The increase in payment is the difference between the councillor rate of £16,560 and the rate shown on the attached spreadsheet

Members Remuneration 2014/15 from 1st April 2014

Committee/Role:	In post:	Member:	£ Level of pay from 01/04/14
Non Senior Councillor role	From 01/04/14	All	16,560
			Pay level if different to above:
All Senior Councillors:			
Convener	From 17/05/12	Gray James	28,982
Vice Convener	From 1/06/12	Smith Maxine	
Vice Convener	From 1/06/12	Wood Hamish	
Leader Of the Council	From 17/05/12	Hendry Drew	38,642
Depute Leader of the Council	From 17/05/12	Alston David	28,982
Leader of the Opposition	From 1/06/12	Wilson Carolyn	24,972
Provost of Inverness	From 13/08/12	Alex Graham	
<u>Resources Committee</u>			
Chair	From 1/06/12 to 08/05/14	Fallows D	24,972
Chair	From 09/05/14	Smith Maxine	
Vice Chair	From 1/06/12	Alston D	
<u>Planning, Development and Infrastructure Committee</u>			
Chair	From 1/06/12	Prag Thomas	24,972
Vice Chair	From 1/06/12	Farlow George	20,364
<u>Community Services Committee</u>			
Chair	From 1/06/12 to 08/05/14	Phillips Graham	24,972
Chair	From 09/05/14	MacKenzie Graham	
Vice Chair	From 1/06/12	McAllister Bet	20,364
<u>Education, Children and Adult Services Committee</u>			
Chair	From 1/06/12	Christie Alasdair	24,972
Vice Chair	From 28/06/13 to 08/05/14	MacKenzie Graham	20,364
Vice Chair	From 09/05/14	Ross Gail	
<u>Audit & Scrutiny Committee</u>			
Chair	From 1/06/12	Davidson Margaret	20,364
Vice Chair	From 1/06/12	Fernie Bill	

Pensions Committee

Chair	From 1/06/12	Fallows David	
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Community Safety, Public Engagement and Equalities Committee

Chair	From 1/06/12	Millar Drew	20,364
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Gaelic Implementation Group

Chair	From 1/06/12	Fraser Hamish	
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Champions Co-Ordinator and Childrens Champion	From 1/06/12	Munro Linda	20,364
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Licensing Committee (and Convener Licensing Board)

Chair	From 12/06/12	Smith Maxine	20,364	Now chair of Resources therefore no payment for this post
Vice Chair	From 12/06/12 to 05/3/14	Millar Drew		
Vice Convener	From 1/04/14	Stone Jamie		

North Planning Applications Committee

Chair	From 19/06/12	McCallum Isabel	
Vice Chair	19/06/12 - 10/02/13	Coghill Robert	
Vice Chair	From 11/02/13	Sinclair Audrey	

South Planning Applications Committee

Chair	From 26/06/12	Gray Jimmy	
Vice Chair	From 26/06/12	Macaulay Colin	

Leader Inverness	From 13/08/12	Ian Brown	24,972
Leader Caithness and Sutherland	From 20/08/12	Deidre MacKay	24,972
Leader Nairn, Badenoch and Strathspey	From 10/09/13	Liz MacDonald	24,972
Leader Lochaber	From 26/08/13	Thomas MacLennan	24,972
Leader Skye, Ross and Cromarty	From 11/12/13	Hamish Fraser	24,972

Total Senior Councillors Remuneration			488,874
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JOINT BOARDS**Valuation**

Convener	From 21/06/12	Carmichael Helen	20,702
Vice Convener	From 21/06/12	MacKay John, Western Isles	19,667