

APPENDIX G: Members' Allowances Scheme (2011/12)

3.7 ICT and other equipment

~~The Council will provide, install and maintain a fax machine at a Member's home, upon request of leaders of political groups and the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Committees. In these cases, the Council will provide replacement print cartridges and parts. The facsimile machine will be returned to the Council at the end of a Member's term of office.~~

~~The Council will provide and maintain a laptop computer to assist with Council work at the request of a Member. The laptop will be returned to the Council at the end of a Member's term of office.~~

Members are able to securely access all Council information and communications from any internet access point, including a home computer, through the Members' Electronic Portal. In order to recognise that part of the cost of provision of such equipment is for the performance of Members' duties, Members may make claim for the following financial support:

- (a) an allowance of up to £120 per annum is available to councillors paid on a yearly basis and separately from the Basic and other allowances. This allowance is available to Members who use their own IT resources to undertake their council duties;
- (b) In exceptional circumstances where a Member is unable to afford the purchase cost of a suitable computer the Council would consider assisting the Member by advancing a lump sum which would then be recovered via repayments from this allowance;
- (c) where a Member has been provided with a Council funded computer, no allowance will be paid; and
- (d) all such allowances are subject to tax along with Basic and Special Responsibility Allowances in the normal way