

Independent Body for Recommendations on remuneration of Councillors, Speaker and Deputy Speaker Report dated 27th March 2017

Appointment

1. On 28.11.16 in accordance with section 72(2) of the Constitution of St Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha, Her Excellency the Governor appointed an Independent Body to make recommendations on the appropriate levels of remuneration and other allowances and benefits of Elected Members of the Executive Council and the remaining Elected Members of the Legislative Council (hereon in collectively referred to as "Elected Members") as well as the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker (for brevity the Elected Members, Speaker and the Deputy Speaker shall hereon in be referred to as "Members").
2. This appointment also followed the recommendation that there be a further review 6 months before the next General Election by the Independent Commission which reviewed the same aforesaid issues in February 2015.

Members

3. Mr Rodney Buckley
Mrs Barbara George
Miss Laura McMullan (Chair)
Miss Nicole Shamier

Consultations

4. The Independent Body met with Her Excellency the Governor on one occasion and the Members on a separate occasion.
5. An opportunity was given to the Members to provide additional comment or opinion in writing. No such written submissions were received. The Independent Body concludes that the silence is an indication that the Members considered they had had adequate opportunity during the meeting to state their views.
6. The Chair met with the Assistant Chief Secretary on two occasions.
7. The Chair requested and received information by email from the Speaker.
8. In addition the Independent Body met on four occasions and communicated on a number of occasions by email.

Information provided during the consultation period

9. In summary the following issues were raised by those consulted as a consensus, unless otherwise noted:

Remuneration

- i) The majority of those consulted considered that the current remuneration of the Members was insufficient in light of the duties and expectations on them. Further, an increase in remuneration was considered a necessity if St Helena wanted to ensure a wider selection of candidates for the General Election with experience, differing skills and/or those who are seeking to make politics a career, thus building up knowledge and experience for the Island's governance.
- ii) Some considered that the remuneration should be significantly increased to almost double the current Elected Members basic income. Others did not wish to enter into discussions as to the exact sum of appropriate remuneration other than the general principle raised above in paragraph 9(i).
- iii) The lack of pension was considered unacceptable for two reasons. It would not assist in attracting persons of calibre to stand for election nor in encouraging people to consider politics as a long term career option.
- iv) All agreed that there should continue to be a differentiation between the Legislative Council and the Executive Council's remuneration. Some considered that the Executive Council ought to be paid significantly higher on the basis of the difference in workload, whilst some considered only a relatively small increase could be justified.
- v) The Speaker is required to:
 - a) preside over formal Legislative Council (4 sessions per year of duration from 1 to 3 days per session);
 - b) preside over Legislative Council (twice per month);
 - c) preside over quarterly informal Legislative Council ;
 - d) attend meetings when invited;
 - e) preside over meetings of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (St Helena) Branch (twice per month);
 - f) process complaints against Members;
 - g) keep order in the House;
 - h) assist with procedural questions;
 - i) approve and regulate leave for Elected Members;
 - j) liaise with the Governor and other officials; and
 - k) scrutinise bills.

In order to complete these duties significant knowledge of the Constitution, standing orders and the code of conduct is required as well as time to read papers. The Speaker is required to be available to address the above issues by telephone and email. Although the number of hours/days of work a week could not be calculated, it was considered that daily work emails were received and sent.

Another person informed the Independent Body that the Speaker presides over informal meetings of Legislative Council on the 2nd, 4th and 5th (whenever there is a 5th) Friday in each month.

Benefits in St Helena

- vi) All agreed that there needed to be an increase in the internet package provided to the Members to enable them to work from home and during evenings as issues arose.
- vii) It was proposed by one Member that the laptop provided to each member should be upgraded or renewed regularly.

Benefits whilst travelling abroad on official business

- viii) Reference was made to ensuring Members had access to communication and technology whilst abroad. One person highlighted this was necessary in light of the fact that the Members are expected to work whilst abroad.
- ix) A Member, with support from at least the majority of the Members, proposed the provision of a mobile telephone whilst abroad, an oyster card for transport within London and a credit card to ease the provision of funds whilst abroad.
- x) Issues were raised about the use of taxis whilst abroad. The majority view was that this should be allowed when travelling with luggage.
- xi) One Member raised concern that they were required to share a cabin when travelling on the RMS St Helena which made it difficult to work on the ship.
- xii) Concerns were raised about the standard of hotel provided when abroad. One complaint was that it was of a lower standard than that provided to TC officers by the St Helena Government. Another view was that clarity should be provided as to what type or standard of hotel should be provided.
- xiii) It was the majority view that the current subsistence allowance was insufficient, especially whilst in London. There were differing views as to what would be an appropriate sum. A number of those consulted referred to the high cost of food within the hotels they stay and mention was made of room service prices.
- xiv) One person raised issues surrounding lack of clarity as to what insurance should be provided to Members when travelling abroad. It was suggested that when not travelling by RMS or through Ascension, that Members be medically insured for £75,000 and that the work laptop plus £500 personal possessions also be insured.

Additional Issues

- xv) It was raised by one Member that if the benefits are to be changed, they should be changed for all those sitting on Statutory Bodies. It was accepted that the Independent Body did not have the remit to stray into such considerations.

Considerations of the Independent Body

10. The Independent Body is acutely aware that any recommendations made by it are made in isolation and without the full spectrum of information regarding the St

Helena Government's budgetary priorities and limitations. The Independent Body considers that to enter into such budgetary considerations, other than acknowledging the current difficulties and deficit, would be extending its remit and accordingly decided against so doing.

11. As a result, the recommendations which follow have to be read within this context and ultimately will have to be weighed against budgetary constraints.
12. A schedule is annexed to detail the proposed amendments to Schedule 1 and Schedule 2 of the Legislative Council (Remuneration and Allowances) Ordinance (hereon in referred to as "Schedule 1" and "Schedule 2") in accordance with the recommendations made.

Remuneration

13. The Independent Body supports the objective stated by all consulted that persons of different experience, with varied skill sets and of differing ages should be encouraged to stand for election. It equally agrees with the suggestion that it is likely that the current remuneration will deter such persons from standing.
14. Concern was raised within the Independent Body whether any sum of money which could realistically be offered, would meet the competitive salaries of senior workers within the private sector or encourage a younger person to enter into the political arena with a view to building a long term political career.
15. However the Independent Body does not consider it is a futile endeavour to attempt to seek and attract such persons to stand for election and concludes that at the very least an increase in remuneration of some level may be of assistance to encourage people to stand. It further hopes that a combination of an increase in remuneration combined with a pension and reconsideration of the benefits offered may produce the desired results.
16. In deciding what would be an appropriate increase in remuneration for the Elected Members the Independent Body considered the following issues:
 - i) Elected Members' workload

It is apparent from the information provided to the Independent Body that currently the role on Legislative Council and Executive Council is one which requires a full time working week commitment as well as some out of hours work. The Independent Body also considers that there are considerable responsibilities placed on Elected Members. Accordingly their remuneration must adequately reflect these two realities.
 - ii) Inflation rates since the last change in Members' remuneration

Remuneration was increased to £10,000 per annum for Legislative Council members and £13,000 per annum for Executive Council members in February 2008. Since February 2008, there has been inflation in prices. RPI (the Island's

measure of prices) increased by 46% between Quarter 1 in 2008 and Quarter 4 in 2016 (when this Independent Body was appointed). This means that a 46% nominal increase of 2008 wages would represent a 0% real increase and a 46% increase would be needed in order for Elected Members to maintain the same purchasing power that they had in 2008. A 46% increase represents a wage of £14,600 per annum for Legislative Council members and £18,980 per annum for Executive Council members.

The Executive Council members' remuneration increased from £13,000 to £14,500 on 1 April 2010. RPI increased by 27.12% between Quarter 1 in 2010 and Quarter 4 in 2016. In other words, a 27.12% increase to £18,432 would be needed in order for Executive Council members to maintain the same purchasing power that they had in 2010.

However it is recognised that St Helena Government staff have not received rises in their salary in line with RPI throughout this period. Accordingly the Independent Body does not consider it appropriate to rely solely on RPI in determining what remuneration Members should receive.

iii) The current pay scale for St Helena Government staff

The Legislative Council members' remuneration is currently equivalent to being within Grade C of the St Helena Government pay grade and Executive Council members' remuneration is equivalent to being within Grade E. When comparing the experience and responsibilities of Government staff within these grades, the Independent Body considers that the Elected Members' remuneration is far below St Helena Government staff in light of the expectations and responsibilities of the roles. Similarities between Members and Government staff's responsibilities and experience are found within Grades D, E and F whose incomes range between £11,034 and £22,643. Although the Independent Body does not consider it appropriate to overly rely on such bands in light of the different responsibilities and roles Elected Members play in contrast to St Helena Government staff, these bands do assist in considering what may be appropriate pay for Elected Members.

iv) Median income changes on St Helena

The last update to the remuneration package was in 2010. The median income on St Helena has increased by 31% between 2010/11 and 2015/16. If such an increase were made to the Elected Members' remuneration, Legislative Council members would receive £13,600 and Executive Council members would receive £19,720. The Independent Body considers this of use, albeit not determinative, in deciding on the appropriate remuneration for Elected Members.

v) The need to avoid an overly complex system and a preference to stream line the system.

It is understood that the Chairs of each Committee are Executive Council members. It is therefore proposed that Executive Council members, who receive a significantly greater remuneration than Legislature Council

members, not receive further remuneration for their work as Chairs. This work should be considered as work expected of them as Executive Council members.

The Independent Body also considers that Deputy Chairs should not receive an increase in remuneration by right, as the work expected of them should be considered part of the role as an Elected Member. It is equally understood that when a Chair (also Executive Council member) is not able to perform their duties due to travel abroad/long term ill health, an Elected Member is appointed as acting Executive Council member and often would also be acting Chair. As acting Executive Council member they would receive, on a pro rata basis, the Executive Council remuneration. Accordingly acting Chair should not receive a further increase in remuneration over and above the Executive Council member remuneration.

In the event that the system changes and Chairs are appointed who are not Executive Council members, the Independent Body recommends that there be a review to consider whether Chairs should receive additional remuneration.

The Independent Body proposes the buying out of:

- a) transportation for Members from their home to their work base in Jamestown during the working week;
- b) telephone line rental cost; and
- c) call costs,

which should be reflected in the Members' remuneration.

vi) Executive Council Member's remuneration

It is accepted that the Executive Council is expected to undertake a greater burden of work and responsibility than the Legislative Council (which sometimes but not always includes being Chair of Committees) and therefore an increase in remuneration from the Legislative Council members' was appropriate. However, the Independent Body considers that the current 45% uplift in remuneration for Executive Council members in comparison to the Legislative Council members needs to be re-evaluated.

vii) Additional considerations

- a) The Independent Body is mindful of potential concern from some quarters of the community if there were to be a significant increase in Members' remuneration, in light of relatively low salaries on St Helena.
- b) The Independent Body cannot justify the continuation of a higher remuneration for those on the Public Accounts Committee. The Independent Body sees no justification for an increase for this Committee, on the understanding that it has no greater workload than other Committees.

17. In light of all of the considerations above, the Independent Body recommends that Executive Council members receive £18,000 per annum and other Legislative Council members receive £14,000 per annum. The Independent Body also recommends that there be no additional remuneration for any additional roles undertaken by the

Members, the proposed increase in remuneration reflecting the work that is expected of them. Any Member however who acts up as an Executive Council member (which includes chairing committees) for 5 days or more should receive, on a pro rata basis, £18,000. The increase in remuneration for Members also incorporates the buying out of transportation from their home to their place of work in Jamestown, the cost of a telephone line rental at their homes and telephone calls as currently provided for in the Schedule.

18. The Independent Body considers that the remuneration of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker had similar considerations as above. In particular, although not exclusively, the following applied:
 - i) The Independent Body is not as convinced about the need or ability to seek career Speakers as was mentioned during consultations. However it is conscious that the Speaker has a significant role to play within the system which requires a high level of procedural knowledge.
 - ii) The Independent Body does not consider that the current remuneration for the Speaker is adequate in light of the work undertaken and the responsibilities the position entails.
19. The Independent Body considers that the responsibilities and expectations are on a similar level to Executive Council members but without a full time workload. Accordingly it recommends that the remuneration for the Speaker be £9000 per annum, that being half of the proposed remuneration for Executive Council members.
20. The Deputy Speaker is required to have the same knowledge of the Constitution and other documents as the Speaker. The Deputy is also required to attend some meetings. Accordingly the Independent Body recommends the Deputy be paid one third of the Speaker's remuneration, namely £3000 and when they act up, they be paid the Speaker's remuneration on a pro rata basis from the first day.
21. The above proposals for the Speaker and Deputy Speaker's remuneration includes the telephone and transport buyouts as referred to in paragraphs 27 and 29 below.

Pension

22. The Independent Body has no hesitation in recommending that Members should receive a contributory pension in line with the St Helena Government staff policy and the pension rules. It is considered that this may be an additional incentive to encourage persons with differing skill sets to stand for election. It is also hoped that it would encourage individuals to consider a long term career in politics.
23. Further the Independent Body considers that by offering a contributory pension there is an added benefit to St Helena Government, namely there would be less of a burden to providing a state pension as the pension could be added to throughout the individual's working life.

24. The Independent Body can see no reason why Members' pension scheme should part from that provided to St Helena Government staff on permanent contracts.

Benefits in St Helena

Internet

25. The Independent Body considers that the provision of a bronze internet package is insufficient for Members who are expected to access/undertake much of their work from emails and the internet. Free internet is provided at The Castle for Members and the Independent Body seeks not to discourage the use of this as it provides the added benefit of Members being available to the public during working hours in Jamestown. However the Independent Body is keen to enable flexible working and is also conscious that internet work is regularly undertaken out of business hours
26. The Independent Body considers that if silver internet package were to be provided to Members, this, along with the free internet at The Castle would provide adequate internet for Members to undertake the work required.

Telephone

27. The Independent Body considers that the cost of the telephone rental and call charges as currently provided in Schedule 2 for Members should be incorporated into their remuneration and accordingly the increase in remuneration includes these costs.

Laptops

28. Consideration was given to the suggestion that laptops be upgraded or renewed regularly. The Independent Body considers that this is a matter for the IT department within St Helena Government and that they can be trusted to provide appropriate IT support and services as necessary and in line with the services provided to St Helena Government staff.

Mileage and transport

29. The Independent Body proposes that there be a buy out of the costs of Members travelling to Jamestown for official business and this be reflected in the increase in remuneration. It notes that travel to the location of work is incorporated in St Helena Government staff's remuneration, and therefore mirroring this for Elected Members would support fairness.
30. All other benefits relating to transportation costs for Elected Members as currently included in Schedule 2 are justified and should remain. The Independent Body proposes that the mileage allowance for the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker as provided in Schedule 2 should be provided for all meetings and official duties they are required to attend outside of Jamestown.
31. The Independent Body considers that the use of taxi should continue to be allowed in exceptional circumstances.

Benefits whilst travelling abroad on official business

Travel

32. Consideration was given to the complaint that Members had to share cabins on the RMS. Although there is sympathy for this position, particularly given the stated desire to be able to work during the voyage, the Independent Body considers that due to financial constraints and opportunity costs to those trying to travel to and from St Helena it cannot support the proposal. In any event, it is anticipated that travel to and from St Helena will shortly be by way of air travel and this issue will no longer be of relevance.
33. The Independent Body supports the remaining provisions in Schedule 2 relating to travel by RMS and air travel, including that the benefits be limited to Members only, not spouse or partner.

Accommodation

34. The Independent Body recommends that when St Helena Government is to pay for the accommodation of Members abroad, any hotel room provided for Members be a maximum cost of £140 a night, the same room rate as that provided by DFID for their staff, subject to one caveat: whilst the Member attends meetings or conferences, the hotel booked should be in the same area as the meeting/conference, irrespective of price. However if the room rate is greater than £140 a night, prior to the commencement and upon the conclusion of the meetings/conferences, a hotel room with a £140 room rate shall be provided. Accordingly it is proposed that Members would be booked into the more expensive hotel the night before the conference commences and would check out the day after the conference concludes.
35. The Independent Body supports the continuation of the £30 a day allowance for Members staying at friends and family. Not only is it appropriate for a contribution to be provided, but it is also a financial saving.

Payment in advance

36. Consideration has been given to the issue raised that substantial sums of money are required by each Member travelling abroad as claims are made upon return to St Helena. It is the Independent Body's opinion that this could cause difficulties for some Members who do not have access to such finances.
37. Thought was given to the suggestion that a credit card be provided. The Independent Body did not consider that this was practical due to the difficulties of obtaining and maintaining a corresponding bank account. It is also understood that to-date St Helena Government has been unable to obtain a credit card through the London Office.
38. Accordingly the Independent Body recommends that in relation to its recommendations at paragraphs 39 to 43 and 46 to 48 below, the Members are to be provided moneys in advance on an estimated basis. In relation to travel within

London, this will be provided by way of an oyster card, this having the added benefit of lower cost journeys within London. The Members are to provide receipts on return to St Helena and any money provided in excess of that spent shall be returned to St Helena Government. If insufficient money had been provided in advance as evidenced by receipt, the Member will be reimbursed accordingly.

Local transport

39. The Independent Body has considered the various opinions raised about the appropriateness of the use of taxis, in particular whilst travelling to and from an airport. Focus was primarily given to travel to and from the UK, as the majority of official business takes place in London. The Independent Body investigated the cost and travel time of both public transport and taxis, to and from the airports.
40. As a result of research the Independent Body recommends that Members should be able to travel by taxi to and from Brize Norton and their hotel, if within 100 miles of the airport, on the basis that the time and costs are similar to that of travelling by public transport. If travelling further afield from Brize Norton, a taxi shall be provided to the nearest train station so that the journey can be completed by train, with a taxi from the final destination train station to the hotel. The Independent Body however considers that the airport at Brize Norton is a special case, it not being a typical airport and without the usual transport infrastructure. Accordingly it recommends that when travelling between the hours of 6am and 11pm to and from other airports, public transport should be used to travel between the airport and the hotel's nearest station on the basis that appropriate transport would be available and it would be cost, and usually time, effective. A taxi would be appropriate from the nearest station to the hotel, when arriving and leaving with luggage, the Independent Body acknowledging the difficulty of transporting luggage. If travel is to take place between 11pm and 6am, the Independent Body recommends the use of taxi to and from hotel and airport, on the basis of the difficulties of travelling during these times.
41. The Independent Body recommends that all other travel be by way of public transport save in exceptional circumstances to justify the use of taxi.
42. All transport payment shall be paid in advance in accordance with paragraph 38 above.

Internet whilst abroad

43. The Independent Body supports the proposition that Members should be assisted to continue to work whilst travelling and abroad. Accordingly it recommends that money be provided in advance, to pay for up to 5 hours of internet a day for each working day (namely Monday to Friday), save where internet is provided with their accommodation. Provision of this shall be made in accordance with paragraph 38 above.

44. However it is recommended that there shall be no such internet provision whilst Members are staying in London as internet can be accessed at the St Helena's UK Representatives Office.

Mobile telephone

45. Whilst understanding the reasoning behind the proposal of provision of a mobile telephone to access internet whilst travelling, the Independent Body does not consider that the limited benefit (accessing internet whilst away from accommodation) outweighs the cost and practical difficulties of obtaining mobile telephones.

Subsistence whilst travelling and abroad

46. There has been considerable discussion and research as to the appropriate subsistence allowance for those accommodated in hotels. The following issues have been considered when coming to conclusions:
- i) The Independent Body is conscious that an element of attending official business abroad may on occasions include informal networking opportunities for the Members. The Members should be financially supported to be able to attend such events which, for convenience, are more likely to take place in the conference hotel, where beverages and food prices are usually significantly higher than elsewhere.
 - ii) It is equally important however to acknowledge that there are usually numerous restaurants and café in the environment of hotels which will be less expensive but of good quality. The Independent Body does not consider it is overly onerous for Members to frequent such establishments, on the basis they would have only a short walk.
 - iii) Providing a maximum subsistence allowance for the entire stay would enable Members to budget accordingly, allowing them to attend unofficial networking meetings in more expensive establishments whilst eating at less expensive restaurants on other days, with a caveat that no receipt should be more than is reasonable.
 - iv) It is not considered appropriate that room service be catered for as this does not appear to be reasonable. Further it is likely and usual that conferences or meetings either finish in time for an evening meal or a meal would be provided by the conference provider if the delegates were expected to work during an evening.
 - v) The following research was undertaken as to the costs of meals in Westminster, London (a frequent location for meetings and conferences attended by Members). No alcohol was included, the Independent Body considering that it would be inappropriate to provide funds for such beverages.
Breakfasts: "The Sandwich Shop", "Pret" and "Weatherspoons" provide breakfast for between £4 and £7.
Lunch: "The Sandwich Shop", "Pret", "Leon" provide lunch for between £6 and £12.

Dinner: "Pizza Express", "Nandos", "Wagamama" and "The Albert Pub" provide dinner for between £15 and £25.

Hotel dinner: Hotel Hilton Doubletree lounge provides dinner for between £20 and £40.

- vi) The Independent Body is aware of the view that Members should receive a similar financial package to that which other delegates at the same conferences receive. Although sympathetic to this view and understanding the need to attend unofficial networking opportunities (see paragraph (i) above), it must be acknowledged that there will be countries represented from differing levels of wealth. Therefore it would be difficult to justify a like for like financial benefit package.
- vii) Some meals may not be required as they may be provided by the hotel or the conference/meeting provider.
- viii) The Foreign and Commonwealth Office guidance provides for the following maximum rates, which, whilst of note, has to be considered in the context of the differentiation in wealth between the UK and St Helena:
Breakfast: £15, Lunch: £20, Dinner: £35

47. The Independent Body recommends that the following rates be provided to those persons staying in hotels:

- i) Breakfast: £10
- ii) Lunch: £15
- iii) Dinner: £30

48. In advance of travel, the Independent Body proposes that the number of meals required are calculated so that Members are provided with the correct sum in advance. The Members will have the flexibility to spend more when required (for informal networking meetings) and spend less when not. Members are to return to St Helena with receipts and the procedure as detailed at paragraph 38 above followed. There should also be a requirement that each meal claimed be of reasonable cost.

Travel Insurance

49. The Independent Body saw no reason to part from the suggestion that Members' medical insurance be insured as follows:

- i) Medically insured up to £500,000 when travelling on the RMS and/or through Ascension and at all other times for £75,000;
- ii) The laptop provided to Members be insured;
- iii) £500 personal possessions be insured; and
- iv) Any further or additional insurance required by members be paid by them.

Mr Rodney Buckley
Mrs Barbara George
Miss Laura McMullan (Chair)
Miss Nicole Shamier

Schedule

Schedule and Paragraph	Amendment Description	Amendment Amount	Paragraph in report
Schedule 1 Paragraph 1(a) (now 1)	Remuneration of an Elected Member, except where paragraph 2 or 3 applies ¹	£14,000 per annum	13 - 17
Schedule 1 Paragraph 1(b)	Deleted		16(vii), 17
Schedule 1 Paragraph 2	Deleted		16(v), 17
Schedule 1 Paragraph 3 (now 2)	Remuneration of an Executive Member	£18,000 per annum	13 - 17
Schedule 1 Paragraph 4	Deleted		16(v), 17
Schedule 1 Paragraph 5 (now 3)	Remuneration of a temporary member of the Executive council from day 5	Payment pro-rata at an annual rate of £18,000	16(v), 17
Schedule 1 Paragraph 6 (now 4)	Remuneration of the Speaker	£9,000 per annum	18 – 19, 21
Schedule 1 Paragraph 7 (now 5)	Remuneration of the Deputy Speaker except where paragraph 6 ²	£3,000 per annum	18 - 21
Schedule 1 new paragraph 6	Remuneration of the Deputy Speaker when actually deputising for the Speaker	Payment pro-rata at an annual rate of £9,000	18 - 21
Schedule 1 New Paragraph 7	Members shall receive a pension contribution in line with the St Helena Government staff policy and rules for permanent staff as set at the time that each Elected Member entered Council.		22 - 24
Schedule 2 Paragraph 1(a)	Deleted		27
Schedule 2 Paragraph 1(b)	Deleted		27
Schedule 2 Paragraph 1(c) (now 1)	Internet: Members shall be reimbursed the cost of subscription to the 'Silver package' offered by Sure (South Atlantic) Limited upon production of a receipt. In addition, Members shall be reimbursed the cost of connection and disconnection charges upon becoming (or ceasing to be) eligible for this allowance or if disconnection and later reconnection are		25 - 26

¹ Paragraph 2 and paragraph 3 refers to the new numeration, not the current

² Paragraph 6 refers to the new numeration, not the current.

	judged by the Chief Secretary or Assistant Chief Secretary to offer best value for money when a member is to be absent from St Helena. In the event that the Chief Secretary considers that a lower package offers best value for money when a member is to be absent from St Helena, the cost of the lower package only will be reimbursed	
Schedule 2 Paragraph 2	No amendments	28
Schedule 2 Paragraph 3(a)	Subject to the following provisions, Members shall be paid an allowance, other than journeys to and from Jamestown, at the rate of 60 pence per mile for journeys made by car on official business to and from their home to the meeting. In the event that the Elected Member is travelling from Jamestown, having been at their place of work immediately prior to the meeting, the allowance shall be paid at the rate of 60 pence per mile from Jamestown to the meeting	29 - 30
Schedule 2 Paragraph 3(b)	No amendment	30
Schedule 2 Paragraph 3(c)	The allowance may be claimed by Elected Members for attendance at: (i) Constituency Meetings; and (ii) any other meetings or carrying out official duties in connection with their role as members, held other than in Jamestown	29 - 30
Schedule 2 Paragraph 3(d)	The Speaker and Deputy Speaker may claim the allowance for all meetings they are required to attend outside of Jamestown or when carrying out official duties out of Jamestown	30
Schedule 2 Paragraph 3(e)	A member, in lieu of any allowance to which they are entitled to under paragraphs (a) to (d) above, may claim the cost of a taxi upon proof of payment for the purposes of any attendance referred to in paragraph (c) or (d) above if there are exceptional circumstances to justify the use of such taxi.	31
Schedule 2 Paragraph 4(a)	No amendment	33
Schedule 2 Paragraph 4(b)	Insert: (iv) travel by taxi to and from Brize Norton and hotels within 100 miles. When travelling to a distance outside the 100 mile radius, taxi will be taken to and from Brize Norton to the nearest train station for onward travel by train with a taxi to be used from the destination	32, 39 - 40

	<p>station to hotel.</p> <p>(v) travel by public transport to and from all other airports and the nearest station to the hotel between the hours of 6am and 11pm; travel by taxi from that station to the hotel.</p> <p>(vi) travel by taxi to and from all other airports and the hotel between the hours of 11pm and 6am.</p>	
Schedule 2 Paragraph 4(c)	Hotel accommodation to be paid for by St Helena Government shall be provided at the maximum rate of £140 per night. In the event that no hotel can be found at that rate in the environment of the meeting/conference to be attended, a hotel shall be provided at the best available tariff and the Member shall stay there from the night before until the day after the meeting/conference.	34
Schedule 2 Paragraph 4(e) (new (d))	No amendment	35
Schedule 2 Paragraph 4(f) (new (e))	<p>Subsistence: Except where the meals are included in the hotel tariff, or where a conference or meeting provider caters for the meals, Members staying in hotels may claim allowances of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) £10 per day for breakfast (ii) £15 per day for lunch (iii) £30 per day for dinner (iv) £5 per day for incidental expenses such as laundry <p>Each meal claimed should be of a reasonable cost</p>	46 - 48
Schedule 2 Paragraph 4(g) (new (f))	No amendment	41
Schedule 2 New paragraph 4(g)	If Members are accommodated out of London, up to 5 hours of internet access per working day (Monday to Friday) shall be reimbursed unless the hotel provides free internet access	43 - 44
Schedule 2 New paragraph 4(h)	In relation to paragraphs 4(b), (d), (e), (f) and (g) ³ , Members shall receive money in advance to the estimated sum required. The Members shall provide receipts upon return to St Helena and any money provided in excess of that spent shall be returned. If insufficient money had been provided in advance as evidenced by receipt, the Member shall be reimbursed	36 – 38

³ Paragraphs refer to the new numeration, not the current.

	accordingly.	
Schedule 2 new paragraph 4(i)	<p>Travel insurance shall be paid for Members when travelling overseas on official business as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Whilst travelling on the RMS or through Ascension medical insurance up to £500,000. At all other times medical insurance up to £75,000 ii) The laptop provided for their work shall be insured iii) Up to £500 of personal possessions shall be insured 	49