

Independent Remuneration Panel

EXCITING AND UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY

DO YOU WANT SOME ORIGINAL WORK EXPERIENCE FOR YOUR CV?

DO YOU WANT TO EARN A SMALL ADDITIONAL INCOME?

Deadline - 14th June 2019

www.southlakeland.gov.uk



South Lakeland District Council (SLDC) is looking for members of the community to join an Independent Remuneration Panel (IRP) to help review its Members' Allowances Scheme.

SLDC is required, by law, to operate an IRP to consider what allowances and expenses elected Councillors (Members) should receive. Councillors are paid allowances and expenses to ensure that all members of the community are afforded the opportunity to act as elected members of the local people and there are no financial barriers in doing so.

The IRP comprises five independent, impartial people who are not employed by SLDC but do receive a small payment for each meeting that they attend.

What the role entails

The IRP's main role is to review the Members Allowances Scheme in an independent, transparent and accountable way to ensure that Members receive fair allowances/expenses in line with other comparable local authorities whilst recognising that public money is spent in the appropriate way.

The IRP will meet approximately four to five times per year to review the Scheme. The IRP will be provided with comparative information from other local authorities, receive information from Councillors (orally or written) to enable them to make well founded recommendations in an independent and informed way. The recommendations from the IRP will be presented to Council in order for the levels of allowances to Members to be voted on. Panel members are appointed for an initial term of four years.

Benefits of involvement

- Gain a wide range of experience and skills including an understanding of local government structure, range of careers within local government and the role of a Councillor
- Receive training and support
- Unique experience to include on your CV
- A unique way of contributing to your local community
- Support from officers to ensure IRP members are confident in the role they carry out
- Payment of an allowance of £70.00 per meeting (IRP Chairman) /£50.00 per meeting (IRP Member) plus travel allowance in accordance with rates determined by SLDC

This would be an ideal opportunity for students, in particular those who are interested in a career in law, politics or other environments in which the ability to analyse evidence and reach reasoned conclusions is critical.

Requirements

- Aged 18 or above

- Be able to understand a range of information and ask questions, make recommendations and present findings
- Be independent and objective
- Have an interest in the local area
- Live in the South Lakeland district
- Be able to attend meetings during normal working hours
- Not be an elected member/officer of any local authority
- Not have a close relationship (immediate blood relative, spouse/partner) with a member or officer SLDC or any parish or town council within the district
- Must not be a member of any political party
- Must not work for any organisation which receives grants from SLDC.

How to apply

If you are interested in making an application to be on the IRP, please send a completed IRP application form to:

Legal, Governance and Democracy, South Lakeland House, Lowther Street, Kendal LA9 4DQ

or to legal@southlakeland.gov.uk by Friday 14 June 2019.

If you would like to have an informal discussion prior to making an application or request an application pack, please contact Josie Smith on 01539 793348.

All applications will be reviewed in line with the Person Specification for an Independent member.