

Pay Policy Statement 2020/21

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1.0 Introduction and Purpose

Under section 112 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council has the “power to appoint officers on such reasonable terms and conditions as the Authority thinks fit”. This Pay Policy Statement sets out the Council’s approach to pay policy in accordance with the requirements of Section 38 of the Localism Act 2011.

The purpose of the statement is to provide transparency with regard to the Council’s approach to setting the pay of its employees by identifying:

- the methods by which salaries of all employees are determined
- the detail and level of remuneration of its most senior staff i.e. ‘chief officers’, as defined by the relevant legislation
- the detail and level of remuneration of the senior managers
- the Committee responsible for ensuring the provisions set out in this statement are applied consistently throughout the Council and recommending any amendments to the full Council

2.0 Legislation relevant to pay and remuneration

In determining the pay and remuneration of all of its employees, the Council will comply with all relevant employment legislation. This includes legislation such as the Equality Act 2010, Part Time Employment (Prevention of Less Favourable Treatment) Regulations 2000, the Agency Workers Regulations 2010 and where relevant, the Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Earnings) Regulations.

The Council ensures there is no pay discrimination within its pay structures and that all pay differentials can be objectively justified.

3.0 Scope of the policy

Legislation requires Pay Policy Statements to provide information relevant to ‘chief officer’ posts as defined in the Localism Act 2011. In South Lakeland District Council the posts classified as chief officers are the Chief Executive, Directors, Operational Leads and Lead Specialists.

This Pay Policy Statement includes Information on the Leadership Team which consists of the Chief Executive, Directors, Lead Specialists and Operational Leads as per the current Leadership Team structure (see table for link to Appendix A1).

4.0 Accountability and decision making

In accordance with Part 3 of the Constitution of the Council titled Responsibility for Council Functions (see table for link to Appendix B), the Human Resources Committee is responsible for decision making and if appropriate, proposing to Council changes in relation to recruitment, terms and conditions and severance arrangements in relation to employees of the Council.

5.0 Pay structure

5.1 Chief Executive and Directors

The Chief Executive's pay scale is considered and reviewed each time the post becomes vacant or at the request of the post holder. The post holder is Lawrence Conway. The salary paid to the Chief Executive is determined locally by the Council. A review of the Chief Executive's salary was undertaken by bench marking the salaries of other district Councils regionally and nationally and the current pay scale was approved by the Human Resources Committee on 18 August 2010.

The Directors' pay scales are reviewed each time there is a proposed senior management restructure or at the request of the post holder/s. The salary paid to Directors is determined locally by the Council. There are two post holder and they are David Sykes, Director of Strategy, Innovation and Resources and Simon Rowley, Director of Customer and Commercial Services. A formal review of the existing Directors salaries was last undertaken in 2005 which involved a bench marking exercise conducted by the North West Employers Organisation. A further salary bench marking exercise was carried out in September 2018 as part of the proposed senior management restructure which was implemented on 1 April 2019.

There are no recommendations for changes to the pay scale for the Chief Executive or Directors.

5.2 Other employees

The Council uses the nationally negotiated pay spines as the basis for its local pay structure, which determines the salaries of its workforce excluding Chief Executive and Directors, together with the use of locally determined rates (see table for link to Appendix C).

The Council adopts the national pay bargaining arrangements in respect of the establishment and revision of the national pay spine.

In determining its grading structure and setting remuneration levels for any posts which fall outside its scope, the Council takes account of the need to ensure value for money in respect of the use of public expenditure, balanced against the need to

recruit and retain employees who are able to meet the requirements of providing high quality services to the community, delivered effectively and efficiently and at times at which those services are required.

In December 2018, the Human Resources Committee and Full Council considered the implementation of the National Joint Council pay agreement for 2018-20, and approved the introduction of a new pay spine on 1st April 2019.

Currently the National Joint Council pay agreement for 2020 onwards has not been finalised. Once this has been finalised an update detailing any changes will be provided to the appropriate committee.

5.3 Bonus payments

The Council does not operate a bonus scheme for any employee.

5.4 Other pay related allowances

All other pay related allowances are the subject of either nationally or locally negotiated rates, having been determined from time to time in accordance with collective bargaining machinery.

5.5 New appointments

New appointments will normally be made at the minimum of the relevant pay scale for the grade, although this can be varied where necessary to secure the best candidate. Where the appointment salary is above the minimum point of the pay scale and is not affected by other Council policies, for example promotion, redeployment or flexible retirement, this is approved in accordance with section 9.3.2 of the Recruitment and Selection Policy (see table for link to Appendix D).

5.6 Market supplements

From time to time it may be necessary to take account of the external pay levels in the labour market in order to attract and retain employees with particular experience, skills and capacity. Where necessary, the Council will ensure the requirement for such is objectively justified by reference to clear and transparent evidence of relevant market comparators, using data sources available from within the local government sector and outside, as appropriate.

5.7 Additional remuneration

From time to time it may be necessary to take account of the external pay levels in the labour market in order to attract and retain employees with particular experience, skills and capacity. Where necessary, the Council will ensure the requirement for such is objectively justified by reference to clear and transparent evidence of relevant

market comparators, using data sources available from within the local government sector and outside, as appropriate.

6.0 Leadership recruitment

The Council's procedures with regard to recruitment of chief officers follows the Officer Employment Procedure Rules in Part 4 of the Constitution (see table for link to Appendix G).

For the expressed purposes of recruiting to the Leadership structure, Council approved a delegation of authority to the Head of Paid Service to take the necessary steps to appoint to those roles with notification of those appointments being reported to a future Council meeting.

When recruiting to all posts the Council will take full and proper account of all provisions of relevant employment law and its own Equality and Diversity, Recruitment & Selection and Redeployment Policies as approved by the Human Resources Committee.

The determination of the remuneration to be offered to any newly appointed chief officer will be in accordance with the pay structure and relevant policies in place at the time of recruitment.

Where the Council is unable to recruit chief officers, or there is a need for interim support to provide cover for a substantive Leadership post the Council will, where necessary, will consider engaging individuals under a 'contract for service'. These will be sourced through a relevant procurement process ensuring the Council is able to demonstrate the maximum value for money benefits from competition in securing the relevant service. In assessing such, it should be noted that in respect of such engagements the Council is not required to make either pension or national insurance contributions for such individuals. The Council currently does not have any senior officers engaged under such arrangements.

7.0 Senior management remuneration

The Leadership posts are set out below with details of their basic salary as at 1 January 2020. Please note that further details will be provided once the National Joint Council pay agreement has been confirmed and agreed. The relevant pay scale is reviewed and changes are implemented on 1 April each year:

Chief Executive

The salary falls within a range of five incremental points between £104,572, rising to a maximum of £111,421. The salary package of the post as at 1 January 2020 is £112,384 (including car user allowance).

The Chief Executives terms and conditions of service are determined by the Joint Negotiating Committee (JNC) for Local Authority Chief Executives.

Directors

The salary package of the existing posts designated as Director is a spot salary as approved by Council in October 2018. The salary package of the post as at 1 January 2020 is £79,774 (including car user allowance).

The Directors terms and conditions of service are determined by the Joint Negotiating Committee (JNC) for Chief Officers.

Operational Leads and Lead Specialists

From April 1st 2019, these roles were established through the senior management restructure and together with the Chief Executive and the Directors form the Leadership Team of the Council.

The salaries for these roles fall within a grades M,N and O of the Council Pay Grades. From 1 January 2020:

Grade and number of incremental points	From	To
Grade M: 4 incremental points	£43,662	£46,572
Grade N: 4 incremental points	£47,546	£50,494
Grade O: 4 incremental points	£51,462	£54,669

The Operational Leads and Lead Specialists terms and conditions of service are determined by the National Joint Council (NJC) for Local Government Services as per all employees under Chief Officer level. The salary level forms part of the Pay and Grading Framework.

8.0 Statutory officer remuneration

Any statutory function performed by Directors is inclusive in their basic salary.

In addition to basic salary, the following posts receive additional pay as set out below:

Returning Officer

The role of Returning Officer currently designated to Simon McVey, Operational Lead Support Services.

In accordance with the national agreement the Returning Officer is entitled to receive and retain the personal fees arising from performing the duties of Returning Officer, Acting Returning Officer, Deputy Returning Officer or Deputy Acting Returning Officer and similar position which he or she performs subject to the payment of pension contributions thereon, where appropriate.

In respect of District and Parish Council elections an allowance of £3609.48 per annum was paid. This payment increased in line with the nationally agreed pay award.

Allowance paid:

From 1 April 2020 the allowance of £3609.48 will no longer be paid but will change to an additional allowance of 10% of standard salary which will be paid to the Operational Lead Support Services. This will bring the allowance in line with the Section 151 Officer and Monitoring Officer.

An additional allowance of 5% of annual salary will be paid to the Deputy Returning Officer.

Fees for election duties for other elections (County Council, National and European Elections, etc.) are paid as an additional sum at the rate prescribed by government as and when they arise, they are distinct from the process for the determination of pay for Chief Officers.

Monitoring Officer

The role of Monitoring Officer currently designated to Linda Fisher, Legal, Governance and Democracy Lead Specialist.

Allowance paid:

An additional allowance of 10% of annual salary will be paid to the Legal, Governance and Democracy Lead Specialist.

An additional allowance of 5% of annual salary will be paid to the Deputy Monitoring Officer.

Section 151 Officer

The role of Section 151 Officer is currently designated to Helen Smith, Finance Lead Specialist.

Allowance paid:

An additional allowance of 10% of annual salary will be paid to the Finance Lead Specialist.

An additional allowance of 5% of annual salary will be paid to the Deputy Section 151 Officer.

9.0 Pension contributions

Subject to qualifying conditions, employees have a right to belong to the Local Government Pension Scheme. The Council is required to make a contribution to the scheme representing a percentage of the pensionable remuneration due under the contract of employment of that employee. The rate of contribution is set by Actuaries advising the Cumbria Pension Fund and reviewed on a triennial basis in order to ensure the scheme is

appropriately funded. The agreed rate to be used in the financial year 2020/21 is 20.1%.

The employee contribution rates effective from 1 April 2019 are based on actual pensionable pay as detailed in the table below.

Actual pensionable pay £	Employee contribution rate
Up to 14,400	5.5%
14,401 to 22,500	5.8%
22,501 to 36,500	6.5%
36,501 to 46,200	6.8%
46,201 to 64,600	8.5%
64,601 to 91,500	9.9%
91,501 to 107,700	10.5%
107,701 to 161,500	11.4%
More than 161,501	12.5%

10.0 Payments on termination

The Councils approach to statutory and discretionary payments on termination of employment of chief officers, prior to reaching normal retirement age, is set out within the Early Retirement Policy (see table for link to appendix H) in accordance with Regulations 5 and 6 of the Local Government (Early Termination of Employment) (Discretionary Compensation) Regulations 2006.

This policy is applied equally to all employees regardless of seniority.

Should there be a need to consider a termination which does not fall within the above policy this would be subject to a formal decision made by the Human Resources Committee.

It is noted that the Government is proposing to introduce a cap on public sector exit payments of £95,000 (including the capital cost of unreduced pension benefits for staff aged 55 or above). The Council's policies will incorporate any changes to legislation.

11.0 Pay analysis

Calculations in this document are taken using the January payroll data and include all taxable bonuses, allowances and variable pay elements payable. This figure excludes pension benefits.

Median salary

This calculation is made including all staff within the paid services of the Council, including the Chief Executive. The median salary using the December 2019 payroll was £22,911. This is based on a staffing number of 392 and total remuneration of £7,588,334 (based on all posts at their full-time equivalent rate).

Lowest paid employees

The lowest paid persons employed under a contract of employment with the Council, are employed on full time (37 hours) equivalent salaries in accordance with the minimum spinal column point currently in use within the Council's grading structure (see table for link to Appendix C). Using the December 2019 payroll data, the lowest paid employee was on a salary of £17,364 per annum (Full Time Equivalent).

The exception to the above are apprentices where they are paid a rate according to their age for the 2 years duration of the apprenticeship. The rates from April 2020 are; under age 18 £4.55 per hour; age 18 to 20 £6.45 per hour, age 21 to 24 £8.20 per hour and 25 and over £8.72. This is above the national apprenticeship rate of pay for year one which is those under age 19 and in the first year of apprenticeship receive £4.15 per hour.

Pay multiple

The Council uses an established process of defining roles, determining job size and salary levels. This process determines the relationship between the rate of pay for the lowest paid and senior manager post, including chief officers, described as the pay multiple. The Chief Executive's remuneration (including essential car user allowance) as at January 2020 was £112,384 per annum. This provides a ratio of approximately 1:5 when compared with the median salary of £22,911 (actual ratio of 1:4.91).

This is currently within the limits recommended by The Hutton Review of Fair Pay in the Public Sector (2010) and will be monitored and recorded annually.

12.0 Trade Union facility time

South Lakeland District Council recognise Unison and GMB trade unions for negotiation and consultation purposes and has a Trade Union Time Off & Facilities Policy (see table for link to Appendix J) which outlines guidance for allowing time off to undertake trade union activities.

There are 7 employees who are union representatives. There is currently no union representative who devotes at least 50% of their time to union activity.

So far during the financial year 2019/20 approximately 1.5 days per month paid time off has been given to trade union representatives.

The average salary at the Council is £19,358 (note this is different to the median salary). Based on the average salary the estimate of spending on unions as a percentage of the total pay bill is 0.08%.

The median salary at the Council is £22,911. Based on the median salary the estimate of spending on unions as a percentage of the total pay bill is 0.1%.

13.0 Re-employment/re-engagement of former Chief Officers

The authority does not re-employ or engage former chief officers under a contract for service.

14.0 Publication of the Pay Policy Statement

Upon approval by full Council, this statement will be published on the Councils Website and intranet.

For posts where the full time equivalent salary is at least £50,000, the Council's Annual Statement of Accounts will include a note setting out the total amount of:

- salary, fees or allowances paid to or receivable by the person in the current and previous year
- any sums payable by way of expenses allowance that are chargeable to UK income tax
- any compensation for loss of employment and any other payments connected with termination
- any benefits received that do not fall within the above

15.0 Review

Once approved by Council, this policy statement will come into immediate effect and will be subject to review on a minimum of an annual basis, the policy for the next financial year being approved by 31 March each year.

Amendments may need to be made throughout the relevant period and proposed amendments will be reported to the Human Resources Committee for recommendation to full Council.

Appendices

Appendices are located on the SLDC internet. Please refer to the following URL for access to the following documents: (Please copy and paste link into the browser to view the document)

Appendix	Document type	SLDC internet link
A	1. Leadership Structure	Appendix A1: https://www.southlakeland.gov.uk/media/6917/south-lakeland-district-council-leadership-structure.pdf
B	Responsibility for Council Functions: Part 3 SLDC Constitution	Appendix B: Responsibility for Functions https://www.southlakeland.gov.uk/media/6952/south-lakeland-district-council-constitution-november-2019.pdf
C	1. SLDC Pay and Grading Structure 1 April 2019 2. SLDC Pay and Grading and Structure 1 April 2020	Appendix C1: http://sharepoint/sites/hr/Shared%20Documents/Payscale%202019.pdf Appendix C2: Awaiting details
D	Recruitment & Selection Policy: Section 10.3	Appendix D: Recruitment and Selection Policy https://www.southlakeland.gov.uk/media/6235/recruitment_and_selection-002.pdf
E	Acting Up Guidelines	Appendix E: Acting Up Guidelines https://www.southlakeland.gov.uk/media/6232/acting_up_guidelines.pdf
F	Exceptional Effort/Merit/Qualification success Guidelines	Appendix F: Exceptional Effort Merit Payments https://www.southlakeland.gov.uk/media/6234/exceptional-effort-merit-payments-guidelines.pdf
G	Officer Employment Procedure Rules: Part 4 SLDC Constitution	Appendix G: Officer Employment Procedure Rules, part 4 SLDC Constitution https://www.southlakeland.gov.uk/media/6952/south-lakeland-district-council-constitution-november-2019.pdf
H	Early Retirement Policy	Appendix H: Early Retirement Policy https://www.southlakeland.gov.uk/media/6233/earlyretirement.pdf
I	Redundancy Policy	Appendix I: Redundancy Policy https://www.southlakeland.gov.uk/media/6236/redundancy-policy.pdf

Appendix	Document type	SLDC internet link
J	Trade Union Time Off & Facilities Policy	Appendix J: Trade Union Time Off and Facilities Policy https://www.southlakeland.gov.uk/media/6237/2014-tradeuniontimeoff.pdf

Author: C.Officer

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