



Subject:	Approved Duties for Committee Chairpersons and Deputy Chairpersons
Date:	18 th November, 2016
Reporting Officer:	Stephen McCrory, Democratic Services Manager
Contact Officer:	As above

Is this report restricted?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	To consider the payment of motor mileage claims for Committee Chairpersons and Deputy Chairpersons when undertaking duties required of them in that role.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	To authorise the payment of motor mileage claims for Committee Chairpersons and Deputy Chairpersons when undertaking duties required of them in that role.
3.0	Main report
3.1	<u>Key Issues</u>
3.1.1	The Local Government (Payment to Councillors) Regulations is the proper authority from which the Council derives the ability to reimburse Councillors for motor mileage properly incurred for “approved duties”.
3.1.2	In the Regulations, approved duties are described as “ <i>attendance at a meeting of a council, or any of its committees or sub-committees or the doing of anything approved by the council for the purpose of, or in connection with, the discharge of the functions of the council or any of its committees or sub-committees</i> ”.
3.1.3	The Standing Committee Chairpersons and Deputy Chairpersons are, from time to time, required to attend meetings or events that other members of the committee would not be required to attend, such as Chairpersons briefings or speaking at an event or an official launch. However, as those duties fall outside the current description of a “meeting” and as there is usually not any specific Committee authority for them to attend

	and receive motor mileage allowance for such events, it has not been possible to pay a claim for the reimbursement of mileage claims.
3.1.4	This seems somewhat unfair as the attendance at such meetings and events is a consequence of the holding of the office of Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson and are at the request of Council officers. It would seem to be appropriate that the mileage incurred is an expense which ought to be able to be reimbursed.
3.2	<u>Financial & Resource Implications</u>
3.2.1	There would be a slight increase in the amount of mileage allowance payment but this can be met from within existing budgets.
3.3	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u>
3.3.1	None.