



Chief Executive of each District Council
 Finance Officer of each District Council
 Other Interested Parties

Local Government and Housing
 Regulation Division
 Finance Branch
 Causeway Exchange
 1-7 Bedford Street
 BELFAST
 BT2 7EG
 Phone: 028 9082 3346
 email: Anthony.carleton@communities-ni.gov.uk

Our ref: CO1-21-1742

28 March 2022

Circular LG 10/2022

Dear Sir/Madam

CONSOLIDATED COUNCILLOR ALLOWANCES CIRCULAR – UPDATED MARCH 2022

This Local Government Circular provides a consolidated record of all councillor allowances and supersedes Local Government Circular 07/2021.

This consolidated circular is required to determine and reflect an increase in maximum rates for Basic and Special Responsibility Allowance from 1 April 2021 and an increase in Dependents' Carers' Allowance from 1 April 2022.

All determinations are made by the Department under section 31 of the Local Government Finance Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 and the Local Government (Payments to Councillors) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2019.

If you have any queries on the content of this circular please contact Jeff Glass on 028 9082 3375 or Ian Lewis on 028 9082 3506 or by email jeff.glass@communities-ni.gov.uk or ian.lewis@communities-ni.gov.uk.

Yours faithfully

ANTHONY CARLETON
Director
Local Government and Housing Regulation

Contents

Circular LG 10/2022.....	1
1. Basic Allowance	3
2. Dependants' Carers' Allowance.....	3
3. Travel Allowances	4
4. Special Responsibility Allowance	5
5. Subsistence Allowances	6

1. Basic Allowance

- valid from 1 April 2021

Basic Allowance	Maximum £15,757 per annum ≠
------------------------	-----------------------------

≠ (The basic allowance includes an element for incidental and consumable costs incurred by councillors in their official capacity. In 2015/16 this element was £1,000 and each year this amount is uplifted in line with the increase applied to the basic allowance, therefore this element within the basic allowance is £1,109 from 1 April 2021.)

2. Dependants' Carers' Allowance

- valid from 1 April 2021 – 31 March 2022

The following table states the maximum rates for dependants' carers' allowance.

Dependants' Carers' Allowance	Hourly Rate	Maximum monthly amount
Standard	£8.91 [^]	£463
Specialist	£17.82	£927

[^](Based on national living wage)

- valid from 1 April 2022

The following table states the maximum rates for dependants' carers' allowance.

Dependants' Carers' Allowance	Hourly Rate	Maximum monthly amount
Standard	£9.50 [^]	£494
Specialist	£19.00	£988

[^](Based on national living wage)

3. Travel Allowances

– valid from 1 April 2017

The following table states the maximum rates for travel allowances.

Type of Vehicle	Rate per Mile
A pedal cycle	20.0p
A motor cycle (all engine capacities)	24.0p
A motor car of cylinder capacity exceeding 450cc but not exceeding 999cc	46.9p *13.7p
A motor car of cylinder capacity exceeding 999cc but not exceeding 1,199cc	52.2p *14.4p
A motor car of cylinder capacity exceeding 1,199cc	65.0p *16.4p
An electric car	45.0p **25.0p
Passenger rate (per passenger)	5.0p

* For mileage above 8,500 miles

**For mileage above 10,000 miles

4. Special Responsibility Allowance

– valid from 1 April 2021

The following table states the maximum rate of Special Responsibility Allowance that a council may pay. The maximum rate is based on the size of the council population. Each council's population figures are updated each year by the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency and it is the duty of each council to operate within the total maximum rate appropriate to its population band. For ease the maximum any councillor can receive, within each band, is also provided.

Population of council	Maximum Special Responsibility Allowance £	Maximum (1/5 th) for individual councillor £
Less than 120,000	55,479	11,096
120,000 to 199,000	77,671	15,534
200,000 +	119,835	23,967

5. Subsistence Allowances

– valid from 1 April 2015

The following table states the maximum rates for subsistence; however, where councils believe it is necessary there is flexibility for councils to increase these rates by applying a suitable measure of price inflation.

PERIOD/MEAL	RATES £	
	British Isles	London
Accommodation allowance - An absence involving an overnight stay, away from the normal place of residence. This rate does not include any meal allowance.	100.70	122.45
Breakfast allowance - (more than 4 hours away from the normal place of residence or, where approved by the council, a lesser period before 11 am)	11.50	
Lunch allowance - (more than 4 hours away from the normal place of residence or, where approved by the council, a lesser period including the period between 12 noon and 2pm)	13.50	
Tea allowance - (more than 4 hours away from the normal place of residence or, where approved by the council, a lesser period including the period between 3pm and 6pm)	4.70	
Evening meal allowance - (more than 4 hours away from the normal place of residence or, where approved by the council, a lesser period ending after 7pm)	20.95	