

COUNCILLORS' ALLOWANCES 2004/05

The table on this page lists in full for the first time in CoastLine all the allowances paid to Suffolk Coastal's district councillors during the year 2004/05.

An Independent Panel made up of Penny Austen-Brown, Chairman of the Suffolk Coastal Business Forum, Ann Colvill, Manager of Felixstowe Citizens Advice Bureau, and Andrew Shelley, Chairman of Suffolk College looked in 2002 at the allowance system.

Their report stated that 'Suffolk Coastal was a well-run authority with conscientious members. Whilst the Council has a strong record of economy, including members' allowances, there was no reason why allowances should be noticeably lower than comparable authorities.'

"The Independent Panel found strong and compelling reasons for recommending increased allowances to our councillors who prior to 2004 received the lowest recompense for their efforts of any council in Suffolk," said Councillor Ray Herring, Leader of Suffolk Coastal.

The Panel recommended that the basic allowance should rise to £3,000 but in view of the financial problems facing Suffolk Coastal, councillors agreed to a rise of £266, bringing the total to £2,750 from April 2004. The average allowance of other Suffolk Councils was around £3,500, while the figure for Suffolk County Councillors was £6,609.

The Council also agreed the Special Responsibility Allowances should be lower than the Panel suggested, with the Leader of the Council getting £8,250 compared to the Panel's recommended £9,000, the Chairman £4,125 rather than £4,500, that Cabinet Members and the Chairmen of the Scrutiny and Development Control Committees get £2,750 rather than £3,000, and that the Leaders of Opposition parties get £2,750 rather than £3,000 (if they have at least five councillors).

"The Independent Panel in 2002 produced a strong case to bring this Council into the 21st century and start properly compensating the hard-working councillors who are playing a key role in running a multi-million pound organisation covering a large and diverse district. We have not put in place their full recommendations as we did not think we could afford to, largely as a result of Government underfunding," added Cllr Herring.

Name	Init.	Ward	Basic Allowance £	Special Responsibility Allowances £	Total Allowances £
ANDREWS	M	Saxmundham	2,750.00	458.00	3,208.00
BARRATT	N P	Woodbridge Seckford	2,750.00	-	2,750.00
BATHO	P	Saxmundham	2,750.00	1069.32	3,819.32
BELLFIELD	P R	Otley	2,750.00	-	2,750.00
BENTINCK	D E	Felixstowe South	2,750.00	-	2,750.00
BIDWELL	J	Trimleys with Kirton	2,750.00	-	2,750.00
BINNS	E	Woodbridge Kyson	2,750.00	879.68	3,629.68
BLOCK	C M	Sutton	2,750.00	2,750.00	5,500.00
BUGG	N	Kesgrave East	2,750.00	2,750.00	5,500.00
BURROUGHES	S	Peasenhall	2,750.00	-	2,750.00
CALLAGHAN	P	Melton & Ufford	2,750.00	-	2,750.00
COCKER	C	Woodbridge Riverside	2,750.00	458.00	3,208.00
DANGERFIELD	H J	Felixstowe West	2,750.00	-	2,750.00
DEACON	M L	Felixstowe North	2,750.00	2,200.00	4,950.00
DIXON	M J	Trimleys with Kirton	2,750.00	458.00	3,208.00
DUNNETT	P	Rendlesham	2,750.00	-	2,750.00
FALCONER	V R	Nacton	2,750.00	-	2,750.00
FIDLER	C	Snape	2,750.00	1,069.32	3,819.32
FOSTER	R	Martlesham	2,750.00	-	2,750.00
GEATER	J L	Leiston	2,750.00	-	2,750.00
GOOCH	D	Rushmere St Andrew	2,750.00	107.09	2,857.09
GREEN	S	Trimleys with Kirton	2,750.00	517.89	3,267.89
GRIMWOOD	R	Kesgrave West	2,750.00	458.00	3,208.00
HALL	B E	Wickham Market	2,750.00	1,375.00	4,125.00
HAMMOND	J W	Kesgrave East	2,750.00	643.15	3,393.15
HART	C	Hacheston	2,750.00	2,750.00	5,500.00
HAWKINS	T	Leiston	2,750.00	3,553.33	6,303.33
HEALEY	A C	Woodbridge Farlingaye	1,145.88	190.88	1,336.76
HERRING	R J	Orford & Tunstall	2,750.00	8,250.00	11,000.00
JACKSON	N	Earl Soham	2,750.00	-	2,750.00
JOWERS	I K	Grundisburgh	2,750.00	2,750.00	5,500.00
KELSO	J M	Martlesham	2,750.00	-	2,750.00
KLASCHKA	J	Kesgrave East	2,750.00	-	2,750.00
LAING	G W	Rushmere St Andrew	2,750.00	1,031.00	3,781.00
LEGGETT	J A	Witnesham	2,750.00	458.00	3,208.00
LEIGHTON	R H	Walberswick/Wenhaston	2,750.00	1,031.00	3,781.00
MINNS	M O R	Felixstowe South East	2,750.00	1,375.00	4,125.00
MUSGRAVE	K	Framlingham	2,750.00	-	2,750.00
NINNMEY	M	Felixstowe West	2,750.00	-	2,750.00
NUNN	A	Leiston	2,750.00	2,750.00	5,500.00
O'BRIEN	P M	Nacton	2,750.00	2,750.00	5,500.00
PADDICK	D M	Felixstowe West	2,750.00	-	2,750.00
PERRY	J	Melton & Ufford	2,750.00	2,750.00	5,515.00*
READ	V R	Kesgrave West	2,750.00	458.00	3,208.00
RODWELL	A	Felixstowe North	2,750.00	458.00	3,208.00
ROSE	W J R V	Framlingham	2,750.00	458.00	3,208.00
SAVAGE	D M	Felixstowe East	2,750.00	2,750.00	5,500.00
SENNINGTON	J M	Felixstowe South	2,558.95	-	2,558.95
SLATER	J B	Yoxford	2,750.00	236.37	2,986.37
SLEMMINGS	C D	Felixstowe East	2,750.00	2,750.00	5,500.00
SMITH	A J	Felixstowe South East	2,750.00	5,500.00	8,250.00
STURROCK	R J	Hollesley with Eyke	2,750.00	458.00	3,208.00
WARREN	R	Aldeburgh	2,750.00	387.79	3,137.79
WHITING	R E	Rushmere St Andrew	2,750.00	2,750.00	5,500.00
WILSON	M J	Aldeburgh	2,750.00	2,750.00	5,500.00
TOTAL			149,454.83	63,788.82	213,258.65

*Claimed £15 conference allowance. No dependants allowances were paid to any councillor.

Councillor Anni Healey sadly died in office. Councillor Sennington commenced service on 26 April 04.