

# Cyngor Tref Llanelli - Llanelli Town Council

Canolfan Gymunedol Stryd Paddock,  
Stryd Paddock,  
LLANELLI,  
Sir Gaerfyrddin,  
SA15 2RU.



Paddock Street Community Centre,  
Paddock Street,  
LLANELLI,  
Carmarthenshire,  
SA15 2RU.

**Lynn Davies, LL.B.,** *Clerc y Dref/Town Clerk*

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*Eich Cyf:*  
*Your Ref:*

*Fy Nghyf*  
*My Ref:TC/G.232/TFB*

*Dyddiad*  
*Date: 23.12.08*

Chris Reading,  
Clerk, Independent Panel on Members' Pay & Allowances  
National Assembly for Wales,  
Cardiff Bay,  
CARDIFF,  
CF99 1NA.

Dear Sir,

## **CALL FOR EVIDENCE**

I refer to your circular letter of November 2008 seeking comments/suggestions about the financial support that Assembly Members receive, as part of the work of the Panel chaired by Sir Roger Jones.

The matter was recently considered by Council members, who also had before them a copy of the Report of the previous Review Panel under the chairmanship of Sir Michael Wheeler-Booth, which was felt to be a valuable introduction to the topic.

Having considered this Report, I was instructed to convey the views of my members on the first four recommendations made in the document, as follows:-

1. Members supported the recommendation to increase the salaries of Assembly Members to a level of 82% of that of an M.P., with effect from 4<sup>th</sup> May 2007.
2. Members supported the recommendation that remuneration for Chairs should not be extended.
3. Members supported the recommendation that Leaders of Opposition Parties other than the main Opposition Party be paid a salary equivalent to that received by those Committee Chairs who receive additional remuneration.
4. Members considered that no salary should be paid to Party Whips.

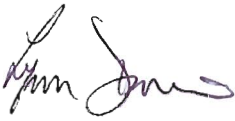


Mae Cyngor Tref Llanelli yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu yn Saesneg  
Llanelli Town Council welcomes correspondence in Welsh or English

On a more general note, the following additional views were expressed –

- (a) In relation to Assembly Members' allowances, in the light of the recent adverse publicity given to the allowances paid during the past year, members were unanimously of the view that the whole issue of expenses and allowances be made completely transparent, with details of the scheme of allowances being better publicised and clarified for everyone's benefit. Members further felt that the Panel now undertaking the fundamental review should look in detail at each element of the current scheme of allowances and, in the light of all comments received, revise the scheme where appropriate.
- (b) That the work of the Panel be linked to the consultation currently underway into greater devolved powers for the Assembly headed by Sir Emyr Jones-Parry.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Emyr Jones-Parry', written in a cursive style.

Town Clerk