

Independent Review Panel - Financial Support for Members

IRP - 55

Response from Abergavenny Town Council

From: peter johns [mailto:abertownclerk@btinternet.com]

Sent: 16 January 2009 14:59

To: Reading, Chris (APS - Corporate Unit)

Subject: Members Pay and Allowances

Dear Mr Reading,

Just an observation on this issue. The main thing is that the system does not provide the opportunity for members to appear to be claiming things which most of us consider to be luxuries, or that members can accrue significant benefits that will stay with them after they have left the Assembly, for whatever reason.

Surely it would be cheaper in the long run for the Assembly to acquire a number of small flats in the vicinity of the Bay to be allocated to members when they are elected, according to need. The need really should only exist for those members beyond reasonable commuting distance from Cardiff, say 40 miles, and then only if they seek it.

This would avoid individuals purchasing furnishings etc to their own taste and standard and would retain ownership of the flats in the Assembly so that the investment of public money is protected.

Peter Johns

Town Clerk,

Abergavenny Town Council