

PAY POLICY STATEMENT 2021

Introduction

1. This document meets section 38(1) of the Localism Act 2011 that requires councils to produce an annual pay policy statement that articulates the council's own policies towards a range of issues relating to the pay of its workforce, particularly its senior staff and lowest paid employees. The majority of terms and conditions are universal and apply to all employees, unless otherwise specified.
2. The council's pay policy statement does not apply to schools, other than reference to pay for bargaining for support staff in locally maintained schools.
3. Herefordshire Council's rules with regard to employment of staff are set out within the employment rules contained within Part 4, section 9 of the constitution.
4. The statement is subject to annual review.

Pay structure / national frameworks

5. Herefordshire Council is committed to fair pay and grading determined by a robust and objective job evaluation process. The National Joint Council's (NJC) job evaluation scheme is used for identifying the pay grade for all posts up to 07HC and the Hay job evaluation scheme for all posts above this level.
6. The council's pay structure is based on the National Joint Council for local authorities pay spine as the basis for its local grading structure up to 11HC. Pay rates above this are locally determined. The pay structure can be found at the end of this document. The council adheres to the national pay bargaining for local government employees, including any negotiated annual cost of living increases. This also applies to support staff in local authority maintained schools
7. To reflect market conditions, the council currently pays enhancements such as market forces supplements to attract candidates or to retain employees where there is an identified and evidenced skills shortage to enable the council to pay a competitive rate for the job. The council has a robust policy in place to manage market forces supplements. The majority of these supplements are paid to staff working in children's social care where there are nationally recognised shortages in the supply of qualified children's social workers. A small number of market forces supplements are also in place for some senior management posts and these are listed in paragraph 11. Proposals for new market forces supplements are approved by the Assistant Director, People and s151 Officer. Existing market forces supplements are reviewed no less frequently than every two years and may be withdrawn subject to notice, where the market conditions no longer warrant the payment.

8. All other pay related allowances are the subject of either nationally or locally negotiated rates, having been determined from time to time in accordance with collective bargaining machinery and/or as determined by council policy.
9. The terms and conditions of employment for the majority of council employees are determined by the National Joint Council for local authorities. Statutory chief officers and employees on director grade and above are aligned to the Joint Negotiating Committee for Chief Officers of Local Authorities (or Joint Negotiating Committee for Chief Executives of Local Authorities). These may be amended, supplemented or superseded by decisions on conditions of service made by the council from time to time and contained within the council's employment policies and procedures.
10. Nationally or locally determined rates and terms and conditions apply for other employee groups including:
 - Employees whose pay and conditions are determined by the Soulbury Committee;
 - Centrally employed teachers whose pay and conditions are determined nationally;
 - Employees who have transferred from the NHS to the council and retain their former terms and conditions of employment;
 - Employees who have retained terms and conditions of employment from other employers following a TUPE transfer to the council.

Level and elements of remuneration for each chief officer

11. For the purpose of this statement 'senior management' means 'chief officers' as defined within section 43 of the Localism Act. The posts falling within this definition are listed below, with details of their grade.

	Post Title	Salary grade	Notes
	CEO Herefordshire Council (head of paid service) Expected start date 3 May 2021	CX	
	Statutory chief officers		
	Director of children and families	DIR1	
	Director for adults and communities	DIR1	
	Chief finance officer (section 151 officer)	DIR2	5
	Acting Director of public health	HOS1	
	Solicitor to the council (monitoring officer)	HOS2	4
	Non statutory chief officers		
	Director for economy and place	DIR1	
	Deputy chief officers		
	Assistant director, safeguarding and family support	HOS1	1
	Assistant director, education, development and skills	HOS1	2
	Assistant director, safeguarding, quality and improvement	HOS1	
	Assistant director, corporate support	HOS1	
	Assistant director, strategy	HOS1	
	Assistant director, people	HOS1	
	Assistant director, highways and transport (acting)	HOS2	
	Assistant director, technical services	HOS2	
	Assistant director, regulatory, environment & waste services	HOS2	
	Head of economic development	HOS2	
	Expert Advisor, Special Engineering Projects	HOS2	
	Head of corporate finance (deputy S151 officer) (0.81fte)	HC13	
	Head of management accounting (deputy S151 officer) vacant	HC13	

	Strategic capital finance manager	HC13	
	Consultant in public health (0.81 fte)	HOS2	
	Assistant director, all ages commissioning	HOS1	3
	Assistant director, adult social care operations	HOS1	
	Assistant director, talk community programme	HOS2	

1. Plus market forces supplement of £6,000, due for review April 2021
2. Plus market forces supplement of £6,000, due for review September 2021
3. Plus market forces supplement of £6,000, due for review February 2022
4. Plus temporary monthly honorarium of 1735.96 for acting deputy chief exec role effective from 14 September 2020
5. Plus temporary monthly honorarium of 337.61 for acting deputy chief exec role effective from 14 September 2020

Remuneration of lowest paid employees

12. 'Lowest paid employees' is defined as those paid on full time equivalent salaries on spinal column point 01HC, which is the minimum spinal column point currently in use within the council's grading structure. The council engages some apprentices on learning agreements rather than employment contracts and this group is not included within the definition of 'lowest paid employees'.

Relationship between remuneration of chief officers and remuneration of employees who are not chief officers

13. The relationship between the rate of pay for the lowest paid and chief officers is determined by the job evaluation process used for establishing the grading of posts and grade/role profiles as set out earlier in this policy statement. The salary ratio between the council's lowest paid staff and the chief executive's salary is 1:8.68. This is unchanged from the previous year.

Remuneration on recruitment

14. New appointments will normally be made at the minimum of the relevant grade, although this can be varied where necessary to secure the best candidate or if an internal candidate is appointed on promotion so that a pay rise ensues. The chief executive and directors are on spot salaries specified in this statement, the right of approval to offer new appointments, not specified above in this statement and or to approve a severance packages in excess of £100k is reserved to Council.

Increases and additions to remuneration

15. Employees, within a salary pay band, receive annual increments until the top of their salary grade has been reached. The first increment is paid when the employee has been in post for 12 months or six months after appointment, whichever is the later. This does not apply to the chief executive or directors. In exceptional circumstances increments may be accelerated within the grade on grounds of special merit or ability subject to the maximum of the level not being exceeded.
16. The chief executive is the returning officer for Herefordshire. No additional payment is made for fulfilling this duty for local elections as this is built into the overall salary. Employees who undertake election duties are paid a fee that is set by the returning officer depending on the duties undertaken.

17. From time to time it may be necessary to take account of the external pay market in order to attract and retain employees with particular experience, skills and capacity. Where this is necessary the council may apply pay supplements to posts which are determined to be 'hard to fill'. At all times the council will ensure the requirement for such supplements is objectively justified by reference to clear and transparent evidence of relevant market conditions. These supplements are regularly reviewed.
18. Honoraria payments are made to recognise either a special contribution an employee has made that is over and above general performance in a role, or where they have temporarily undertaken additional responsibility at a higher grade.

Use of performance related pay, bonuses or pension enhancements

19. The council does not apply any bonuses or performance related pay to employees.
20. Pension enhancements are made in line with the council's LGPS discretions policy.

Benefits in kind

21. Employees currently have access to salary sacrifice schemes for bicycles. The council operates a childcare voucher scheme to those employees already in the scheme at 1 April 2018 and subject to prevailing legislation. The council also offers staff access to a package of high street discounts and benefits. This reflects the benefits available to staff in neighboring authorities so that the council is able to be competitive in recruitment markets.
22. Reasonable relocation expenses may be paid for new employees or workplace relocation. Employees are reimbursed for reasonable travel and subsistence expenditure incurred in the course of their work. Subsistence is only paid when travelling outside of the county.
23. Worcestershire County Council administers the local government pension scheme on behalf of the council.

Approach to payment on ceasing to hold office under or to be employed by the authority

24. The council's policy on termination of employment of employees prior to reaching normal retirement age is to base redundancy payments on the statutory calculation multiplied by 1.5.
25. The council operates a mutual early resignation scheme (MERS) under which an individual employee, in agreement with the council, chooses to leave employment in return for a severance payment or, if in the Local Government Pension Scheme and aged over 55, a pension that is not actuarially reduced. It is not a redundancy or a voluntary redundancy.
26. Any payments made on termination of employment will be made subject to the Exit Cap Regulations introduced in November 2020.

Accountability and decision making

27. In accordance with the council's constitution, the employment panel (in respect of the chief executive, monitoring officer, Section 151 officer and directors) or the chief

executive (in respect of all other employees) is responsible for decision making in relation to the recruitment, pay, terms and conditions and severance arrangements in relation to employees of the council.

28. For those pay accountability matters identified within the Localism Act as being reserved to Council, the employment panel will be the body accountable for formulating recommendations to council including the undertaking of an annual review of this statement before recommending its approval to council as one of the suite of documents council approves as part of its medium term financial strategy. The pay policy statement therefore forms part of the budget and policy framework of the council.
29. In addition to approval of this statement, the right of approval of new salary packages for additional posts not listed in this statement over £100,000 is reserved to Council. In such circumstances the employment panel will be the body accountable for developing recommendations to Council.

Publication of and access to information

30. After approval by Council, this statement will be published on the council's website. In addition, statutory employees' (chief executive, directors, including the chief finance officer, and monitoring officer) details are disclosed in the council's annual statement of accounts setting out the total amount of:
 - Salary, fees or allowances paid to or receivable by the person in the current and previous year.
 - Any bonuses so paid or receivable by the person in the current and previous year.
 - Any sums payable by way of expenses allowance that are chargeable to UK income tax.
 - Any compensation for loss of employment and any other payments connected with termination.
 - Any benefits received that do not fall within the above.

**NATIONAL JOINT COUNCIL FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRADES:
PAY STRUCTURE AS AT 1 APRIL 2020**

(to be updated with April 2021 pay award when known)

Grade	National SCP (scp50 & above are local)	Annual Pay Rate £	Hourly Pay Rate £
01HC	1	17,842	9.25
02HC	1	17,842	9.25
	2	18,198	9.43
	3	18,562	9.62
03HC	3	18,562	9.62
	4	18,933	9.81
04HC	4	18,933	9.81
	5	19,312	10.01
	6	19,698	10.21
05HC	6	19,698	10.21
	7	20,092	10.41
	8	20,493	10.62
	9	20,903	10.83
	10	21,322	11.05
	11	21,748	11.27
06HC	11	21,748	11.27
	12	22,183	11.50
	13	22,627	11.73
	14	23,080	11.96
	15	23,541	12.20
	16	24,012	12.45
	17	24,491	12.69
	18	24,982	12.95
07HC	19	25,481	13.21
	20	25,991	13.47
	21	26,511	13.74
	22	27,041	14.02
	23	27,741	14.38
	24	28,672	14.86
	25	29,577	15.33
08HC	25	29,577	15.33
	26	30,451	15.78
	27	31,346	16.25
	28	32,234	16.71
	29	32,910	17.06
	30	33,782	17.51
09HC	30	33,782	17.51
	31	34,728	18.00
	32	35,745	18.53
	33	36,922	19.14
	34	37,890	19.64
10HC	35	38,890	20.16
	36	39,880	20.67
	37	40,876	21.19
	38	41,881	21.71

	39	42,821	22.20
11HC	40	43,857	22.73
	41	44,863	23.25
	42	45,859	23.77
	43	46,845	24.28
	44L	48,117	24.94
12HC	45L	49,422	25.62
	46L	50,766	26.31
	47L	52,148	27.03
	48L	53,562	27.76
	49L	55,016	28.52
13HC	50L	56,514	29.29
	51L	58,050	30.09
	52L	59,628	30.91
	53L	61,248	31.75
HoS2	1	77,079	39.95
	2	79,161	41.03
	3	81,296	42.14
HoS1	1	83,492	43.28
	2	85,746	44.45
	3	88,058	45.64
DIR 2	1	106,869	55.39
DIR 1	1	130,865	67.83
CEX	1	155,022	80.35

