POLICY NOTE

THE LOCAL GOVERNANCE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2004 (REMUNERATION) AMENDMENT REGULATIONS 2013

SSI 2013/351

The above instrument was made by the Scottish Ministers in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 11 and 16(2) of the Local Governance (Scotland) Act 2004 and all other powers enabling them to do so.

Policy Objectives

The Regulations make provision in relation to the remuneration of local authority councillors. They amend The Local Governance (Scotland) Act 2004 (Remuneration) Regulations 2007 to increase the level of remuneration payable to local authority councillors by 1% for the 2013-14 financial year and a further 1% from 2014-15.

Consultation

There is no requirement for the Scottish Ministers to undertake a consultation before making a recommendation on councillors' salaries. However Ministers have had discussions with the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA) who are in agreement with a 1% increase in councillors' remuneration for 2013-14 and 2014-15.

Impact Assessments

An equality impact assessment has not been undertaken as the increase in councillors' remuneration applies to all local authority members.

The Scottish Ministers have decided that a Business Regulatory Impact Assessment is not required as there is no impact on business or the third sector and the impact on the public sector (council budgets) is not expected to cause a significant financial pressure. The salary increase would be met from existing council budgets and for 2013-14 the increase would be around £230,000 across all 32 councils. The 2014-15 increase would add a further cost of around £230,000 across all councils.