

<b>DECISION-MAKER:</b>	COUNCIL
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Pay Policy 2023 - 2024
<b>DATE OF DECISION:</b>	15 <sup>th</sup> March 2023
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	Chief Executive

<b><u>CONTACT DETAILS</u></b>			
<b>Executive Director</b>	<b>Title</b>	Chief Executive	
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<b>STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY</b>
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None

<b>BRIEF SUMMARY</b>
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The purpose of this report is to approve the Pay Policy for 2023-2024. The proposals reflect proposed national agreements and affect all staff of the Council with the exception of: Teachers and support staff in Voluntary Aided (VA)/Trust schools; Modern Apprentices (separate pay framework); Non council staff who work for the council (NHS, including Public Health staff who transferred under COSOP (Transfer of Undertakings (TUPE) equivalent) and have retained NHS pay.

<b>RECOMMENDATIONS:</b>
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	(i)	To approve the Pay Policy statement for 2023-2024.
	(ii)	To note the continued implementation of the Foundation Living Wage increase as the minimum hourly rate for National Joint Council (NJC) evaluated posts from 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2023.
	(iii)	To note that negotiations for a cost of living award for 2023 as part of the pay agreement for NJC evaluated roles and Chief Officer and Chief Executive pay are ongoing and that implementation of this, once agreed, is delegated to the Head of HR and OD to be applied for 2023-2024.

<b>REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS</b>
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1.	<b>Purpose</b> This Pay Policy Statement ("Pay Statement") is provided in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 ("Localism Act") and is updated prior to the commencement of each subsequent financial year.
2.	<b>Scope</b> This Pay Policy Statement sets out Southampton City Council's pay policies relating to its workforce (excluding the groups noted above) for the financial year 2023-2024, including the remuneration of its Chief Officers, lowest paid

	<p>staff and the relationship between its Chief Officers and the staff who are not Chief Officers.</p> <p>The Localism Act 2011 (the Act) reflects a requirement for transparency over both senior council officers' pay and that of the lowest paid staff. To support this, the Act requires councils to publish an annual Pay Policy Statement covering Chief Officers (both Statutory and Non-Statutory Chief Officers and Deputy Chief Officers), a comparison of policies on remunerating Chief Officers and other staff and our policy on the lowest paid. The Act does not apply to local authority schools. In the interests of clarity and transparency it is important for local authorities to use the opportunity to set out their overall reward strategy for the whole workforce.</p> <p>The Act requires councils to include the following in their Pay Policy Statement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the level and elements of remuneration for Chief Officers;</li> <li>• the remuneration of its lowest-paid employees (together with definition of "lowest-paid employees" and reasons for adopting that definition);</li> <li>• policy on the relationship between the remuneration of Chief Officers and other officers;</li> <li>• policy on other specific aspects of Chief Officers' remuneration;</li> <li>• remuneration on recruitment, increases and additions to remuneration;</li> <li>• use of performance-related pay and bonuses, termination payments, and transparency.</li> </ul> <p>The Act defines remuneration widely, to include not just pay but also charges, fees, allowances, benefits in kind, increases in/enhancements of pension entitlements, and termination payments.</p> <p>The Pay Policy Statement can be amended in-year but must be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• approved formally by the Council meeting itself;</li> <li>• approved by the end of March each year;</li> <li>• published on the authority's website (and in any other way the authority chooses);</li> </ul> <p>complied with when the authority sets terms and conditions for Chief Officers.</p>
3.	<p><b>Context</b></p> <p>The Pay Policy also reflects the collective national agreements for NJC evaluated roles and Chief Officer and Chief Executive pay. Implementation of this Pay Policy is in accordance with the Revenue Budgets approved for 2023-2024.</p>
4.	<p><b>Changes in legislation and national policies</b></p> <p>The council's gender pay reporting requirements are published on the council's website as part of the Transparency Code as per the requirement from 2018 onwards.</p> <p>The current pay gap shows that women's hourly rate is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2.7% lower (mean)</li> <li>• 2.8% lower (median)</li> </ul>

	<p>The Council's mean and median gender pay gap is significantly lower than the UK national average, which is estimated at 14.9% based on data from the Office of National Statistics (ONS).</p> <p>Whilst the Council does have a much lower gender pay gap than the national average, we recognise that a small gender pay gap does still exist due to the nature of our workforce profile and the job roles that men and women are employed to do.</p> <p>Whilst we have higher female representation in all our pay quartiles, we have a larger proportion of women in our lower pay quartiles, which explains our mean and median gender pay gap of 2.7% and 2.8% respectively. Within our lower pay quartiles, most of these roles are part time, therefore these tend to be more likely to be held by women (it is estimated that 77% of part time workers in the UK are women). 30% of our workforce are part time of which 87% are female and 13% male. The Council has significant female representation in our upper pay quartiles; 50% of the Executive Management Team are female for example demonstrating that we have a good gender balance amongst our most senior roles.</p>
5.	<p><b>Definitions</b></p> <p>For the purpose of this Pay Statement the following definitions apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Pay” in addition to base salary includes charges, fees, allowances, benefits in kind, increases in/enhancements to pension entitlements and termination payments.</li> <li>• “Chief Officers” refers to the following roles within the Council:  <i>Statutory Chief Officer roles are:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Chief Executive, as Head of Paid Service</li> <li>b) Director Governance, Legal &amp; HR (Monitoring Officer)</li> <li>c) Executive Director Wellbeing Children &amp; Learning (DCS)</li> <li>d) Executive Director Wellbeing &amp; Housing (DASS)</li> <li>e) Executive Director Corporate Services (Chief Financial Officer, as Section 151 Officer)</li> <li>f) Director of Public Health</li> </ol> <i>Non Statutory Chief Officer roles are</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Executive Director Place</li> <li>b) Director Strategy &amp; Performance</li> <li>c) Director Customer Experience</li> <li>d) Deputy Director Children`s Social Care</li> <li>e) Director of Environment</li> <li>f) Service Director Adult Social Care Operations</li> <li>g) Director of Commissioning - Integrated Health and Care</li> </ol> </li> <li>• The wider leadership team also includes Chief Officers that report directly to/or are accountable to a statutory or non-statutory Chief Officer in respect of all or most of their duties. These are Heads of Service graded at a Chief Officer grade.</li> <li>• “Lowest paid employees” refers to those staff paid within Grade 1 of the Council's mainstream pay structure. This definition has been adopted because Grade 1 is the lowest grade on the Council's mainstream pay structure and the posts have been assessed through</li> </ul>

	<p>the NJC Job Evaluation Scheme as having the least amount of complexity and responsibility.</p> <p>“Employee who is not a Chief Officer” refers to all employees who are not covered under the “Chief Officer” pay scale group above. This includes the “lowest paid employees” i.e. employees on Grade 1 and all other staff up to and including Grade 13.</p>												
6.	<p><b>Relationship between remuneration of "Chief Officers" and "employees who are not Chief Officers"</b></p> <p>This relates to the ratio of the Council’s definition of “Chief Officers” and the median average earnings across the whole workforce as a pay multiple. The Council's highest paid employee is the Chief Executive (Head of Paid Service). The median salary and ratio for 2022/23 was calculated using pay data for all permanently employed staff. The ratio of the Council’s highest paid employee and the median average earnings across the whole workforce is published for comparison with the April 2022 position.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>April 2022 (£)</th> <th>March 2023 (£)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><b>Highest paid employee</b></td> <td>£160,882</td> <td>£168,435</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Median FTE salary</b></td> <td>£28,227</td> <td>£32,019</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Ratio</b></td> <td>5.68:1</td> <td>5.26:1</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		April 2022 (£)	March 2023 (£)	<b>Highest paid employee</b>	£160,882	£168,435	<b>Median FTE salary</b>	£28,227	£32,019	<b>Ratio</b>	5.68:1	5.26:1
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7.	<p><b>Pay Framework and remuneration levels – general</b></p> <p>The pay structure and pay scales have been designed to enable the council to recruit and retain suitably qualified staff at all levels to meet the outcomes detailed in the Council Strategy and associated outcome plans within an affordable financial framework. With a diverse workforce the council recognises that the Pay Policy needs to retain enough flexibility to cope with a variety of circumstances that can arise and may necessitate the use of market supplements or other such mechanisms for individual categories of posts where appropriate. The decision to apply a market premium will be approved by the Chief Executive and the Organisational Design Board based on advice from the Head of HR and OD. Any approved premium will be subject to an annual review.</p>												
8.	<p><b>Responsibility for decisions on pay structures</b></p> <p>It is essential for good governance that decisions on pay are made in an open and accountable manner. The Council’s locally determined pay structures are based on the outcome of recognised job evaluation schemes (Hay and NJC). This is in line with the national requirement for all Local Authorities to review their pay and grading frameworks to ensure fair and consistent practice for different groups of workers with the same employer and to comply with employment legislation as well as the economic climate locally.</p> <p>The current mainstream pay structure was implemented from June 2015 under the Pay &amp; Allowances Framework collective agreement. The pay structure for Chief Officers and Head of Service on CO Grades is determined separately and pay rates are assessed through the Hay job evaluation process.</p>												

	The Head of HR & OD has the delegated authority to amend the pay levels to reflect the nationally agreed pay award for 2023.
9.	<p><b>Pay scales and grading framework</b></p> <p>All staff below the level of Chief Executive, Chief Officers and some Heads of Service are within the main council Pay Scale (except for teachers).</p> <p>The main Council pay scale consists of 56 pay spine points (SCP) within 13 grades with grade 1 being the lowest and grade 13 the highest. All staff will be on one of the 13 grades based on their job evaluated role. Each grade contains several spinal column points (SCP) to allow for incremental advancement within the grade. The 2019 compression of spinal column points was in line with the national pay agreement to be implemented by the Council within budget and without affecting the top of any current grade or number of overall grades within the pay scale. All main scale posts are paid within the range £20,258 to £67,192 per year (2022-23 figures). 2023/24 pay range will reflect the 2022 Foundation Living Wage figure (minimum hourly rate of £10.90) and the nationally agreed pay award once this is confirmed and will be effective from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023.</p>
10.	The Council has committed to ensuring that all staff receive a rate of pay at least equal to a Living Wage (in line with the Living Wage review and recommendations) and applies an additional payment to staff on any hourly pay rate which falls below the Foundation Living Wage. This has had the on-going effect of increasing annual salaries for the lowest paid employees.
11.	Details of the Chief Officer pay scales ( <b>Appendix 1</b> ) and the Council's mainstream pay structure ( <b>Appendix 2</b> ) are appended to this Statement, are published on the Council's website and reflect the position with effect from 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2023 ( <u>Note</u> ; these charts are pre any confirmed pay award for April 2023).
12.	Pay awards are considered annually for all employees but are subject to conditions imposed nationally by the Government and/or negotiated locally. The outcome of national consultations by the Local Government Association in negotiation with the Trade Unions in relation to the settlement of the annual pay award is normally applied as per the recommendation for 2023-2024 onwards. If there is an occasion where to apply nationally agreed pay awards would distort the local pay structures, alternative proposals are developed, discussed with the trade unions and brought to Elected Councillors for formal approval.
13.	<p><b>Remuneration – level and element</b></p> <p>“Chief Officers” are identified at 3 above. They are all paid within the council's pay structures as follows (2022-2023 figures as 2023 pay award yet to be confirmed):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Chief Executive, as Head of Paid Service will be paid a salary within the grade range £160,882 to £191,063 (2022/23 pay level).</li> <li>b. Statutory and Non-Statutory Chief Officers/Managers of the council's 700 services will be paid a salary within the grade range £69,608 to £157,366 (2022/23 pay levels) according to post rating under the Hay scheme (CO5 to CO1.1).</li> </ol> <p>Details of Chief Officer and Heads of Service remuneration are published on the Council's website.</p>

14.	<b>Bonuses and Performance related pay</b> There is no provision for bonus payments or performance related pay awards to any level of employee. There is, however, an honorarium provision for an agreed sum or an accelerated increment which may be awarded where an employee performs duties outside the scope of their post over an extended period or where there are agreed, short term additional duties and responsibilities. All such payments/increments are subject to approval by an Executive Director and must be within existing budget provision.
15.	<b>Other pay elements</b> The pay structure for Chief Officers takes account of the clearly defined additional statutory responsibilities in respect of the Section 151 and Monitoring Officer roles.
16.	<b>Charges, fees or allowances</b> Allowances or other payments, for example linked to irregular or unsocial hours working, standby, first aid/fire marshal responsibilities etc. are paid, as appropriate, to staff below Chief Officer pay grade in connection with their role or the pattern of hours they work and in accordance with the Council's standard framework ( <b>Appendix 3</b> ) and national collective agreements. The attached framework will be revised and republished once any confirmed pay award for 2023/24 is agreed.
<b>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED</b>	
17.	N/A
<b>DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)</b>	
18.	N/A
<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>	
<b><u>Capital/Revenue</u></b>	
19.	The implementation of the Pay Policy is in accordance with the Council's Revenue Budgets approved for 2023/24.
<b><u>Property/Other</u></b>	
20.	N/A
<b>LEGAL IMPLICATIONS</b>	
<b><u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u></b>	
21.	Local Government Act 1972 and Localism Act 2011
<b><u>Other Legal Implications:</u></b>	
22.	Equalities Act 2010, in particular s.149 (The 'Public Sector Equality Duty')
<b>RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS</b>	
23.	None
<b>POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS</b>	
24.	None

<b>KEY DECISION?</b>	<b>No</b>
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<b>WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:</b>	None
<u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u>	
<b>Appendices</b>	
1.	Chief Officer Pay scales
2.	Main pay scales Grades 1-13
3.	Allowances Framework
4.	Equality and Safety Impact Assessment
<b>Documents In Members' Rooms</b>	
1.	None
<b>Equality Impact Assessment</b>	
<b>Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA) to be carried out.</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Data Protection Impact Assessment</b>	
<b>Do the implications/subject of the report require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be carried out.</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Other Background Documents</b>	
<b>Other Background documents available for inspection at:</b>	
<b>Title of Background Paper(s)</b>	<b>Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)</b>
1.	None