



Local Government Policy Division

Clerk & Chief Executive of each District Council,
Finance Officer of each District Council,
Mr L Hannaway, Honorary Secretary, Society of
Local Authority Chief Executives,
Mrs N Winder, Acting Chief Executive, Northern
Ireland Local Government Association,
Mrs C Escott, Secretary, Association of Local
Government Finance Officers,
Mr R Ferguson, Secretary, National Association
of Councillors,
Mr A Kerr, Chief Executive, Local Government
Staff Commission
Mr D Morrice, Secretary, Northern Ireland Local
Government Officers' Superannuation Committee
Mr J Quinn, Chief Executive, Arc 21,
Mr G Craig, Finance Director Arc 21,
Mr J Buchanan, Chief Local Government Auditor
Other Interested Bodies

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Your reference:
Our reference:
Date: 8 July 2010

Circular No. LG 13/10

Dear Sir/Madam

SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCE

1. The Department of the Environment following consultation with the Northern Ireland Joint Council for Local Government Services has not made any revision to the existing maximum amounts of subsistence allowances payable to councillors which were determined by the Department on 26 June 2006. These allowances were applicable from 1 April 2006 and are broadly in line with those of officers of councils.
2. A copy of circular LG 16/06, detailing the rates from 1 April 2006, is attached for ease of reference.
3. However, although there is no evidence that the existing maximum amounts should be raised and that the existing limits appear sufficient in practice, if councils wish to review the amounts year on year that they may do so by reference to a suitable measure of price inflation.
4. Should councils wish to apply such increases it is suggested that they should utilize the RPI measure (excluding Mortgage Interest payments and indirect taxes) at April each year which is available on the website for the Office for National Statistics at

<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/StatBase/tsdataset.asp?vlnk=229>

5. The Department will consult again next year with the Northern Ireland Joint Council For Local Government Services who will be considering their recommendations again in approximately 18 months or earlier if there is evidence in the interim to suggest that the rates should be revised and councils will be advised accordingly.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Janet A Cooper .". The signature is written in a cursive style with a period at the end.

JANET COOPER (MISS)

Encs.