

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL PAY POLICY STATEMENT

Introduction and Purpose

1. Under section 112 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council has the “power to appoint officers on such reasonable terms and conditions as authority thinks fit”. This pay policy statement sets out the Council’s approach to pay policy in accordance with the requirements of Section 38 of the Localism Act 2011. It shall apply for the financial year 2026/27 and each subsequent financial year, until amended.
2. The purpose of the statement is to provide transparency about the Council’s approach to setting the pay of its employees by identifying.
 - a. the methods by which salaries of all employees are determined.
 - b. the detail and level of remuneration of its most senior staff, i.e. chief officers’, as defined by the relevant legislation.
 - c. The Committee(s) responsible for ensuring the provisions set out in this statement are applied consistently throughout the Council and for recommending any amendments to the full Council.
3. Once approved by the full Council, this policy statement will come into immediate effect and will be subject to review on a minimum of an annual basis, in accordance with the relevant legislation prevailing at that time.

Legislative Framework

4. In determining the pay and remuneration of all of its employees, the Council will comply with all relevant employment legislation. This includes the Equality Act 2010, Part Time Employment (Prevention of Less Favorable Treatment) Regulations 2000, The Agency Workers Regulations 2010 and where relevant, the Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Earnings) Regulations. With regard to the equal pay requirements contained within the Equality Act, the Council ensures there is no pay discrimination within its pay structures and that all pay differentials can be objectively justified through the use of equality proofed Job Evaluation mechanisms. These directly relate salaries to the requirements, demands and responsibilities of the role.

Pay Structure

5. The Council’s pay and grading structure comprises grades 1 – 11. These are followed by grades for Managers, Assistant Director 1, Assistant Director 2, Director WRS, Executive Director, Deputy Chief Executive and then Chief Executive; all of which arose following the introduction of shared services with Redditch Borough Council (RBC).

6. Within each grade there are a number of salary / pay points. Up to and including grade 11 scale, at spinal column point 43, the Council uses the nationally negotiated pay spine. Salary points above this are locally determined. The Council's Pay structure is set out below.

7. The schedule below reflects the current year's pay structure agreed with the unions, as the national bargaining process for the current year has not yet concluded, the pay structure will be updated during the year to reflect the nationally agreed position once the national bargaining process is concluded and the new pay settlement is confirmed for April 2026 onwards.

8. As part of the national bargaining process referred to above, the council's lowest pay level will always meet the national minimum living wage levels, which are uplifted annually. Our national pay bargaining outcome, if increased, is usually applied in October and backdated to the beginning of the financial year. To ensure our lowest pay level (NB currently there are no employees below grade 2) always meets the minimum living wage, an adjustment would be made at the beginning of the financial year to ensure the council remains compliant with its minimum living wage undertaking.

9. In addition to the living wage commitment within the pay policy, annually as part of its budget setting process the council will confirm its continued commitment to the higher rated "Real Living Wage".

Grade	Spinal Column Points		Nationally determined rates	
			Minimum £	Maximum £
1	2	2	24,413	24,413
2	2	5	24,796	25,583
3	5	9	25,583	27,254
4	9	14	27,254	29,540
5	14	19	29,540	32,061
6	19	24	32,061	35,412
7	25	30	36,363	40,777
8	30	34	40,777	45,091
9	34	37	45,091	48,226
10	37	40	48,226	51,356

11	40	43	51,356	54,495
Manager Hay	Hay Evaluated	38%	57,180	59,490
Manager Hay Grade 1	Hay evaluated	43%	66,163	68,772
Manager Hay Grade 2	Hay evaluated	45%	68,772	71,510
Assistant Director 1	Hay evaluated	51%	78,510	81,203
Assistant Director 2	Hay evaluated	61%	92,956	96,665
Director of WRS	Hay evaluated	68%	103,842	107,566
Executive Director	Hay evaluated	74%	114,282	118,694
Director of Finance S151	Hay evaluated	74%	114,282	118,694
Chief Executive	Hay evaluated	100%	150,472	154,572

10. All Council posts are allocated to a grade within this pay structure, based on the application of a Job Evaluation process. Posts at Managers and above are evaluated by an external assessor using the Hay Job Evaluation scheme. Where posts are introduced as part of a shared service, and where these posts are identified as being potentially too 'large' and 'complex' for this majority scheme, they will be double tested under the Hay scheme, and where appropriate, will be taken into the Hay scheme to identify levels of pay. This scheme identifies the salary for these posts based on a percentage of Chief Executive Salary (for ease of presentation these are shown to the nearest whole % in the table above). Posts below this level (which are the majority of employees) are evaluated under the "Gauge" Job Evaluation process.
11. In common with the majority of authorities the Council is committed to the Local Government Employers national pay bargaining framework in respect of the national pay spine and annual cost of living increases negotiated with the trade unions.
12. 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. In determining its grading structure and setting remuneration levels for all posts, the Council takes account of the need to ensure value for money in respect of the use of public expenditure, balanced against the need to recruit and retain employees who are able to meet the requirements of providing high quality services to the community; delivered effectively and efficiently and at all times those services are required.
13. 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. 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 necessary, the Council will ensure the requirement for such is objectively justified by reference to clear and transparent evidence of relevant market comparators, using appropriate data sources available from within and outside the local government sector.
14. For staff not on the highest point within the salary scale there is a system of annual progression to the next point on the band.

Senior Management Remuneration

15. For the purposes of this statement, senior management means 'chief officers' as defined within S43 of the Localism Act. The posts falling within the statutory definition are set out below, with details of their basic salary as at 1st April 2026 (assuming no inflationary increase for these posts).
16. Bromsgrove District Council (BDC) is managed by a senior management team who manage shared services across both BDC and RBC.

Councils. All of the posts listed below have been job evaluated on this basis, with the salary costs for these posts split equally between both Councils.

a) Chief Executive

Employed by RBC and shared with BDC.

John Leach is in post with a current salary of £154,572.

b) Deputy Chief Executive

Employed by BDC and shared with RBC.

This post is currently vacant.

c) Executive Director

Employed by RBC and shared with BDC.

d) WRS Director

Employed by BDC. This is a shared post across 6 District authorities.

e) Assistant Directors

Employed by RBC and shared with BDC

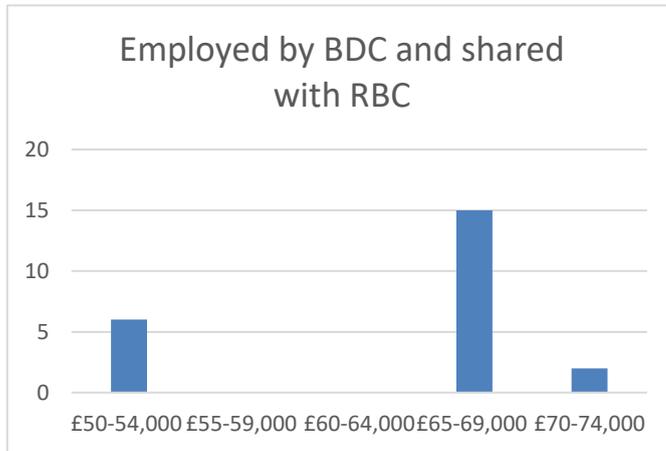
4 x Assistant Director 2

Employed by BDC and shared with RBC

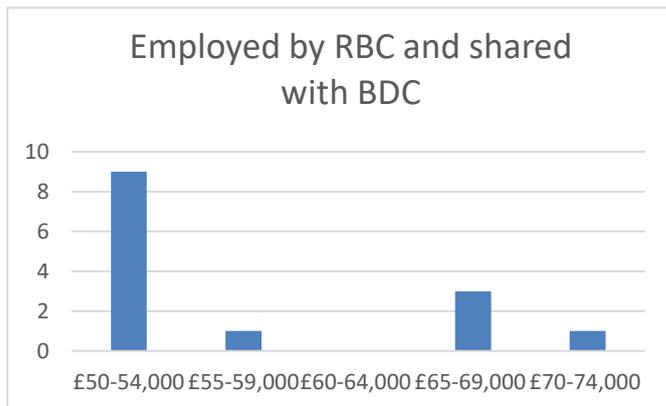
3 x Assistant Director 2

Employees below Assistant Directors with a salary above £50,000 based on FTE

Employed by BDC and shared with RBC



Employed by RBC and shared with BDC



Title	% of Chief executive salary	Pay range (minimum) £	Pay range (maximum) £	Incremental points	Cost to Bromsgrove District Council £
Chief Executive	100%	150,472	154,572	3	50%
Deputy Chief Executive & S151	80%	121,059	125,712	3	50%
Executive Director Environment and Communities	74%	114,282	118,694	3	35%
Director Worcestershire Regulatory Services	68%	103,842	107,566	3	<i>This is a shared post across 6 district Authorities. Bromsgrove equates to 14.45%</i>
Assistant Director Finance and Customer Services	61%	92,956	96,665	3	50%
Assistant Director Planning and Leisure Services	61%	92,956	96,665	3	50%
Assistant Director Transformation and Corporate Services	61%	92,956	96,665	3	50%
Assistant Director Legal, Democratic & Election Services	61%	92,956	96,665	3	50%
Assistant Director Environmental and Housing Property Services	61%	92,956	96,665	3	35%
Assistant Director Community and Housing Services	61%	92,956	96,665	3	35%
Assistant Director Regeneration & Property Services	61%	92,956	96,665	3	50%

Recruitment of Chief Officers

17. The Council's policy and procedures with regard to recruitment of chief officers is set out within the Officer Employment Procedure Rules as set out in the Council's Constitution. When recruiting to all posts the Council will take full and proper account of its own equal opportunities, recruitment and redeployment Policies. The determination of the remuneration to be offered to any newly appointed chief officer will be in accordance with the pay structure and relevant policies in place at the time of recruitment. Where the Council is unable to recruit to a post at the designated grade, it will consider the use of temporary market forces supplements in accordance with its relevant policies.
18. Where the Council remains unable to recruit chief officers under a contract of service, or there is a need for interim support to provide cover for a vacant substantive chief officer post, the Council will, where necessary, consider and utilise engaging individuals under 'contracts for service'. These will be sourced through a relevant procurement process ensuring the council is able to demonstrate the maximum value for money benefits from competition in securing the relevant service. The Council does not currently have any Chief Officers under such arrangements.

Performance-Related Pay and Bonuses – Chief Officers

19. The Council does not apply any bonuses or performance-related pay to its chief officers. Any progression through the incremental scale of the relevant grade is subject to satisfactory performance which is assessed on an annual basis.

Additions to Salary of Chief Officers (applicable to all staff)

20. In addition to the basic salary for the post, all staff may be eligible for other payments under the Council's existing policies. Some of these payments are chargeable to UK Income Tax and do not solely constitute reimbursement of expenses incurred in the fulfilment of duties. The list below shows some of the kinds of payments made.
 - a. reimbursement of mileage. At the time of preparation of this statement, the Council pays an allowance of 45p per mile for all staff, with additional or alternative payments for carrying passengers or using a bicycle.
 - b. professional fees. The Council pays for or reimburses the cost of one practicing certificate fee or membership of a professional organisation provided it is relevant to the post that an employee occupies within the Council.
 - c. long service awards. The Council pays staff an additional amount if they have completed 25 years of service and having completed 40 years' service.
 - d. honoraria, in accordance with the Council's policy on salary and grading. Generally, these may be paid only where a member of staff has performed a role at a higher grade;
 - e. fees for returning officer and other electoral duties, such as acting as a presiding officer of a polling station. These are fees which are identified and paid separately for local government elections, elections to the UK Parliament and EU Parliament and other electoral processes such as referenda;

- f. pay protection – where a member of staff is placed in a new post and the grade is below that of their previous post, for example as a result of a restructuring, pay protection at the level of their previous post is paid for the first 12 months. In exceptional circumstance pay protection can be applied for greater than 12 months with the prior approval of the Chief Executive.
- g. market forces supplements in addition to basic salary where identified and paid separately;
- h. salary supplements or additional payments for undertaking additional responsibilities such as shared service provision with another local authority or in respect of joint bodies, where identified and paid separately;
- i. attendance allowances.

Payments on Termination

- 21. The Council's approach to discretionary payments on termination of employment of chief officers prior to reaching normal retirement age is set out within its policy statement in accordance with Regulations 5 and 6 of the Local Government (Early Termination of Employment) (Discretionary Compensation) Regulations 2006 and Regulations 12 and 13 of the Local Government Pension Scheme (Benefits, Membership and Contribution) Regulations 2007.
- 22. Any other payments falling outside the provisions or the relevant periods of contractual notice shall be subject to a formal decision made by the full Council or relevant elected members, committee or panel of elected members with delegated authority to approve such payments.
- 23. Redundancy payments are based upon an employee's actual weekly salary and, in accordance with the Employee Relations Act 1996, will be up to 30 weeks, depending upon length of service and age.

Publication

- 24. Upon approval by the full Council, this statement will be published on the Council's website. In addition, for posts where the full-time equivalent salary is at least £50,000, the Council's Annual Statement of Accounts will include a note on Officers Remuneration setting out the total amount of:
 - a. Salary, fees or allowances paid to or receivable by the person in the current and previous year.
 - b. Any bonuses so paid or receivable by the person in the current and previous year.
 - c. Any sums payable by way of expenses allowance that are chargeable to UK income tax.
 - d. Any compensation for loss of employment and any other payments connected with termination.
 - e. Any benefits received that do not fall within the above.

Lowest Paid Employees

- 25. The Council's definition of lowest paid employees is persons employed under a contract of employment with the Council on full time (37 hours) equivalent salaries in accordance with the minimum spinal column point currently in use within the Council's grading structure. As at 1st April 2026 this is £24,413 per annum.

26. The Council also employs apprentices (or other such categories of workers) who are not included within the definition of 'lowest paid employees' (as they are employed under a special form of employment contract, which is a contract for training rather than actual employment).
27. The relationship between the rate of pay for the lowest paid and chief officers is determined by the processes used for determining pay and grading structures as set out earlier in this policy statement.
28. The statutory guidance under the Localism Act recommends the use of pay multiples as a means of measuring the relationship between pay rates across the workforce and that of senior managers, as included within the Hutton 'Review of Fair Pay in the Public Sector' (2010). The Hutton report was asked by Government to explore the case for a fixed limit on dispersion of pay through a requirement that no public sector manager can earn more than 20 times the lowest paid person in the organisation. The report concluded that "it would not be fair or wise for the Government to impose a single maximum pay multiple across the public sector". The Council accepts the view that the relationship to median earnings is a more relevant measure and the Government's Code of Recommended Practice on Data Transparency recommends the publication of the ratio between highest paid salary and the median average salary of the whole of the authority's workforce.
29. As part of its overall and ongoing monitoring of alignment with external pay markets, both within and outside the sector, the Council will use available benchmark information as appropriate.

Accountability and Decision Making

28. In accordance with the Constitution of the Council, the Council is responsible for setting the policy relating to the recruitment, pay, terms and conditions and severance arrangements for employees of the Council. Decisions about individual employees are delegated to the Chief Executive.
29. The Appointments Committee is responsible for recommending to Council matters relating to the appointment of the Head of Paid Service (Chief Executive), Monitoring Officer, Section 151 Officer and Chief Officers as defined in the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) Regulations 2001 (as amended);
30. For the Head of Paid Service, Monitoring Officer and the Chief Finance Officer, the Statutory Officers Disciplinary Action Panel considers and decides on matters relating to disciplinary action.