

EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
PAY POLICY STATEMENT 2026-27

a) INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Localism Act 2011 (Sections 38 to 43) requires Local Authorities to produce a Pay Policy Statement for each financial year.
- 1.2 The Act and supporting statutory guidance provides details of matters that must be included in the Pay Policy Statement but also recognises that each Local Authority has the autonomy to determine its own pay structure and pay policies. The Pay Policy Statement must be formally approved by Full Council by the end of March each year (although it can be amended in-year), must be published on the Council's website and must be complied with when setting terms and conditions for Chief Officers as defined in the Act.

2. SCOPE

- 2.1 This Pay Policy Statement includes a policy on:
- a) The level and elements of remuneration for each Chief Officer;
 - b) The remuneration of the lowest paid employee;
 - c) The relationship between the remuneration of Chief Officers and other Officers; and
 - d) Other specific aspects of Chief Officer remuneration such as fees, charges and other discretionary payments.
- 2.2 Remuneration in this context is defined widely to include not just pay but also charges, fees, allowances, benefits in kind, increases in enhancements of pension entitlements and other discretionary payments.
- 2.3 Under the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, a 'Chief Officer' is defined as:
- The Head of Paid Service, as designated under Section 4(1);
 - The Monitoring Officer, as designated under Section 5(1);
 - A Statutory Chief Officer, as detailed in Section 2(6);
 - A Non-Statutory Chief Officer, as detailed in Section 2(7); and
 - A Deputy Chief Officer, as detailed in section 2(8).
- 2.4 At East Cambridgeshire District Council, this would apply to the following posts:
- Chief Executive
 - Director, Operations
 - Director, Finance and Section 151 Officer
 - Director, Legal Services and Monitoring Officer
 - Director, Community

3. CHIEF OFFICER SALARIES

- 3.1 The current salary scales for the staff in 2.4 are as presented in the table below.
- 3.2 Incremental progression through the salary scale will be determined each year as part of the annual appraisal and will be dependent on the individual being awarded a rating of either 'excellent' or 'outstanding' in accordance with the Council's Performance Management Scheme.

POST	SALARY SCALE £'S*				
	MINIMUM				MAXIMUM
Chief Executive	139,197	142,541	145,889	149,238	152,583
Director, Operations	87,314	90,748	95,517	105,017	110,582
Director, Finance and S151 Officer	87,314	90,748	95,517	105,017	110,582
Director, Legal Services and Monitoring Officer	87,314	90,748	95,517	105,017	110,582
Director, Community	87,314	90,748	95,517	105,017	110,582

* Figures as at 1 April 2025.

- 3.3 The salaries shown include the 2025-26 pay award for Local Government Services and will be updated to include the 2026-27 pay award once agreed.

4. REMUNERATION OF EMPLOYEES

- 4.1 All staff below Chief Officer level are employed on terms and conditions in accordance with the NJC National Agreement on Pay and Conditions of Service (commonly known as the "Green Book"). The Council currently uses a pay spine that commences at Spinal Column Point (SCP) 3 and ends at SCP 59. As part of the 2025-26 NJC pay agreement, SCP 2 is being permanently removed from the pay spine effective from 1 April 2026.
- 4.2 The pay spine currently in use is divided into 11 pay scales, which contain various incremental points. Scale 1 is the lowest scale and Scale 11 is the highest of these pay scales. Posts are allocated to a scale through the NJC 'Green Book' job evaluation process. The values of the SCPs are increased by the pay award agreed annually by the National Joint Council for Local Government Services.
- 4.2 Incremental progression through the salary scale is determined each year as part of the annual appraisal and will be dependent on the individual being awarded a rating of either 'excellent' or 'outstanding' in accordance with the Council's Performance Management Scheme.

4.3 For the purposes of this Pay Statement, “Green Book” employees on Scale 1 are defined as our lowest paid employees as there are no employees of the Council paid at a SCP that is lower than a point contained in Scale 1. The bottom of Scale 1, from 1 April 2026, will be SCP 3 and the top will be SCP 4. The full-time equivalent (FTE) annual values of these two SCPs is currently £24,796 (SCP 3) and £25,185 (SCP 4) and will be updated with the April 2026 pay award once agreed.

4.4 The Council will continue to meet or exceed the National Living Wage which is currently £12.21 per hour and is set to increase to £12.71 per hour from 1 April 2026. The lowest point on the Council’s pay scale from 1 April 2026 will be SCP 3 which currently equates to £12.85 per hour and this will increase with the April 2026 pay award once agreed.

5. ENGAGEMENT OF WORKERS THROUGH INTERMEDIARIES

5.1 Where individuals are working for the Council through an intermediary such as their own limited company or a consultancy firm, or an employment agency, and are working in the same way as our own employees, the payer will be liable to pay associated income tax and National Insurance Contributions (NICs). Genuinely self-employed workers will not be covered by this requirement (commonly known as IR35) and will continue to make their own assessment and payment arrangements for income tax and NICs.

6. TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

6.1 The terms and conditions of employment for the Chief Executive is in accordance with the Joint Negotiating Committee for Chief Executives, Scheme of Conditions of Service and as varied by local agreement.

6.2 The terms and conditions of employment for the other Chief Officers (as detailed at 2.4) is in accordance with the Joint Negotiating Committee for Chief Officers, Scheme of Conditions of Service as varied by local agreement.

6.3 The terms and conditions of employment for all other staff are in accordance with the National Joint Council for Local Government Services as varied by local agreement.

6.4 The Chief Executive (Head of Paid Service); Director, Legal Services and Monitoring Officer; and Director, Finance and Section 151 Officer; occupy statutory positions and specific rules on termination apply (as set out in the respective Scheme of Conditions of Service Handbook).

7. REMUNERATION ON APPOINTMENT AND RE-EMPLOYMENT

7.1 Recruitment of Chief Executive and 'Chief Officer' (as defined by the Localism Act) posts are as set out in the Council’s Constitution Part 4, Section 7, Officer Employment Procedure Rules.

7.2 The starting salary of all newly appointed officers will be in accordance with the principles set out in the Council’s Recruitment Policy designed to avoid inequality.

8. BONUSES AND OTHER ADDITIONAL PAYMENTS/ALLOWANCES/BENEFITS PAYABLE TO CHIEF OFFICERS

- 8.1 There are currently no bonus payments in place.
- 8.2 The Chief Executive and the Director, Operations both receive an Essential Car User allowance of £1,239 per annum.
- 8.3 The other eligible allowances and expenses payable to the posts set out in paragraph 2.4 of this statement are as set out:
- Professional subscriptions;
 - A one-off lump sum payment of 1% of basic pay for receiving an ‘Outstanding’ rating in their performance appraisal; and
 - Childcare allowance (if eligible) (as per the Council’s Childcare scheme).
- 8.4 The Council will meet or reimburse authorised travel, accommodation and subsistence expenses for attendance away from the normal place of work on approved Council business. The Council does not regard such expenses as remuneration but as non-pay operational expenses. The same approach applies to legitimate Health and Safety reimbursements.

9. PENSION CONTRIBUTIONS

- 9.1 All staff who are members of the Local Government Pension Scheme make individual contributions to the scheme in accordance with the following table. The employee contribution tables for 2025/26 are shown below.

Contribution table 2025/26			
Band	Actual pensionable pay for an employment	Contribution rate for that employment	
		Main section	50/50 section
1	Up to £17,800	5.50%	2.75%
2	£17,801 to £28,000	5.80%	2.90%
3	£28,001 to £45,600	6.50%	3.25%
4	£45,601 to £57,700	6.80%	3.40%
5	£57,701 to £81,000	8.50%	4.25%
6	£81,001 to £114,800	9.90%	4.95%
7	£114,801 to £135,300	10.50%	5.25%
8	£135,301 to £203,000	11.40%	5.70%
9	£203,001 or more	12.50%	6.25%

- 9.2 The Council makes employer’s contributions into the scheme, which are reviewed by the actuary. The rate with effect from 1 April 2026 will be 18.5%.

- 9.3 The Council's discretions on pension enhancements are set out in the Pensions Discretion Statement.

10. PAYMENT UPON TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT

- 10.1 Senior management who cease to hold office or be employed by the Council will receive payments calculated using the same principles as any other employee, based on entitlement within their contract of employment, their general terms and conditions and existing policies (e.g. Redundancy Policy).
- 10.2 Redundancy payments are calculated in accordance with the statutory scheme based on actual contractual weekly pay.
- 10.3 An employee will lose their entitlement to redundancy pay if they take up a post with another body covered by the Redundancy Payments (Local Government) (Modification) (Amendment) Orders within 4 weeks of the date of the redundancy and the offer of the new job has been made before the end of the original contract.

11. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HIGHEST AND LOWEST GRADE OF STAFF

- 11.1 The lowest paid grade for East Cambridgeshire District Council is Scale 1 of the National pay structure. As at 1 April 2026 (subject to increase with the pay award once agreed), the pay range for Scale 1 is currently £24,796 - £25,185 per annum. The highest paid post is that of Chief Executive with a pay scale of £139,197 - £152,583 per annum.
- 11.2 The ratio between the highest grade and lowest grade at the scale minimum pay point is 1:5.6 and at the scale maximum pay point is 1:6.1. Ratios are based on basic salary and do not include other payments.
- 11.3 The Council does not have a specific policy on pay ratios between the highest and lowest graded posts but will continue to monitor the ratio each year within the Pay Policy Statement.

12. ELECTION FEES

- 12.1 The Returning Officer has overall responsibility for the conduct of elections.
- 12.2 The Returning Officer is an officer of the Council who is appointed under the Representation of the People Act 1983. Although appointed by the Council, the role of Returning Officer is one of a personal nature and is separate and distinct from their duties as an employee of the Council.
- 12.3 Election fees are paid for electoral duties and are separate and additional to basic salary.
- 12.4 The Chief Executive is the Council's Returning Officer.
- 12.5 The fees for local elections are set on a countywide basis through the Association of Electoral Administrators, Cambridgeshire Group.

- 12.6 The fees for all other elections are set by the Electoral Commission.
- 12.7 Other officers, including some of the posts set out in paragraph 2, may receive additional payments for specific election duties.
- 12.8 Only fees for District Council elections are met by this Council.

13. DISCLOSURE

- 13.1 This Pay Policy Statement will be published annually by 31st March and made available on the Council's website. The Council already publishes details of all staff paid above £50,000 on the Council's website.

14. REVIEW

- 14.1 The Pay Policy Statement will be updated annually as required by the Localism Act.