

## Agenda Item 9

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<b>Date</b>	20 <sup>th</sup> February 2018
<b>Ward (s) affected</b>	All
<b>Subject</b>	<b>Mole Valley District Council Annual Pay Policy Statement for 2017-18 and Gender Pay Gap report</b>
<p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <p>Council is asked to :-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. approve the Pay Policy Statement for the financial year 2017/18, and</li> <li>2. note the figures which will be reported under the new legal requirement to report the organisation's Gender Pay Gap that are contained within the Pay Policy Statement.</li> </ol>	
<p><b>Corporate Priorities</b></p> <p>Publication of the Pay Policy statement and gender pay gap reporting are statutory responsibilities.</p> <p>The Council is committed to ensuring that it applies a cost effective approach to delivering and developing services and this is reflected in its arrangements for remuneration of staff. The Council is also committed to ensuring that it is open and transparent, providing clear timely information to residents and the publication of this Pay Policy Statement supports that commitment to openness and transparency.</p>	
<p><b>The Council has the authority to determine the Recommendations</b></p>	

### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Localism Act 2011 requires relevant authorities (including county, district and borough councils and fire and rescue authorities) to prepare an annual pay policy statement setting out their arrangements for the financial year. The content of the Statement is prescribed in the legislation and aims to ensure transparency and accountability of Local Authorities in their remuneration practices.
- 1.2 The content of the statement reflects our existing local conditions, it does not imply any changes to existing pay arrangements, it is merely a prescribed articulation of the Council's current terms.

- 1.3 Before it takes effect, the pay policy statement has to be approved by full Council. This must be done before the 31<sup>st</sup> March on any given year. Once approved, the Pay Policy Statement will be published on the Council's website.
- 1.4 Enabling legislation under the Equality Act 2010 requires relevant employers to report on:
- the difference in the mean pay of full-pay men and women, expressed as a percentage;
  - the difference in the median pay of full-pay men and women, expressed as a percentage;
  - the difference in mean bonus<sup>1</sup> pay of men and women, expressed as a percentage;
  - the difference in median bonus pay of men and women, expressed as a percentage;
  - the proportion of men and women who received bonus pay; and
  - the proportion of full-pay men and women in each of four quartile pay bands.
- 1.5 The mechanisms for the necessary calculations are set out in the Regulations. The Gender Pay Gap is required to be drawn from a snapshot date of 31st March 2017 and reported by 30<sup>th</sup> March 2018 for the first time, and subsequently by the same date each year. The figures given therefore relate to the financial year 2016/17.

### **Financial Implications**

There are no financial implications beyond those considered in the two previous Budget Reports for both 2016/17 and 2017/18

### **Legal Implications**

The publication of the pay statement is a specific requirement of the Localism Act 2011.

The publication of Gender Pay Gap information is a new requirement under enabling legislation pursuant to the Equality Act 2010.

## **2. Corporate Implications**

### **Monitoring Officer commentary**

The Monitoring Officer confirms that all relevant legal implications have been taken into account

### **S151 Officer commentary**

The S151 confirms that all relevant financial implications have been taken into account.

### **Risk Implications**

The pay policy statement summarises or references provisions in staff contracts and in existing policies and does not imply any additional risk to the organisation. Risk implications in relation to this report are in relation to potential media attention in

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<sup>1</sup> See Section 4.4.1 and 5.1 of Annex for the applicability of reporting on bonus payments under our Pay Policy Statement.

relation to the Gender Pay Gap as the topic has been widely reported in the national press however the issue has often been confused with equal pay. A clear distinction between having a Gender Pay Gap and equal pay is therefore drawn in the report. Potential comparisons may be made with nearby organisations especially within local government therefore explanations of any key factors influencing the figure is given in the report. As the figure itself is comfortably below the national Gender Pay Gap any risk to reputation resulting from incomplete understanding of the statistic is mitigated with these control factors in place.

### **Equalities Implications**

The Council's Pay and Expenses Policy makes provision for matters of equal pay.

### **Employment Issues**

There are no employment implications as a result of this report.

### **Sustainability Issues**

There are no sustainability implications as a result of this report.

### **Communications**

The Pay Policy Statement will be published on the Council's website. The Gender Pay Gap will be reported within the Pay Policy Statement and to central government as mandated by the legislation. The issue of the gender pay gap has received a significant amount of national media attention. The figures for Mole Valley are comfortably below the national Gender Pay Gap. A press statement will be issued to be clear about the difference between having a Gender Pay Gap and Equal Pay and an explanation of the context for Mole Valley as compared to other local authorities.

### **Background Papers**

Corporate Policies in relation to pay and conditions

2016/17 Budget and Council Tax Resolution - Council, 16th February 2016



## **Mole Valley District Council Pay Policy Statement and Gender Pay Gap 201718**

### **1.0 Purpose**

This report combines the Pay Policy Statement and details under new legislation referred to as 'Gender Pay Gap' reporting. This is the first time figures under the Gender Pay Gap reporting legislation are being provided. Both reports must be published annually by no later than the end of March.

### **2.0 Legal background**

#### **2.1 Pay Policy Statement.**

The Pay Policy Statement is provided annually in accordance with Section 38 of the Localism Act 2011.

The Pay Policy Statement is required to set out Mole Valley District Council's policies relating to the remuneration of its workforce, and in particular the relationship between the remuneration of the highest and lowest paid members of staff and between Chief Officers and non Chief Officers.

#### **2.2 Gender pay gap reporting:**

Under the Equality Act 2010 (Gender Pay Gap Information) Regulations 2017 (SI 2017/172) and Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties and Public Authorities) Regulations 2017 (SI 2017/353) relevant employers are required to report on

- the difference in the mean pay of full-pay men and women, expressed as a percentage;
- the difference in the median pay of full-pay men and women, expressed as a percentage;
- the difference in mean bonus<sup>1</sup> pay of men and women, expressed as a percentage;
- the difference in median bonus pay of men and women, expressed as a percentage;
- the proportion of men and women who received bonus pay; and
- the proportion of full-pay men and women in each of four quartile pay bands.

The mechanisms for the necessary calculations are set out in the Regulations.

### **3.0 Context and differences between the two reporting requirements:**

It is important to note there are key differences between the figures reported under each of the differing legislative requirements. This links to the broader purpose.

The Pay Policy Statement applies purely to employees. The definitions separately

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<sup>1</sup> See Section 4.4.1 and 5.1 for the applicability of reporting on bonus payments under our Pay Policy Statement.

prescribe 'pay' and 'remuneration' with the latter including employer pension contributions.

Interpretation of pay under the Gender Pay Gap is prescribed by the legislation and as such is required to include salary and allowances paid to everybody that MVDC pays. This therefore includes not only established staff but agency and casual workers. The payments do not however include employer pension contributions or payments to Members. Other elements of remuneration that are one off payments must also be included regardless of when during the year they are paid. These are therefore included pro rata.

Legislation on the Gender Pay Gap mandates the applicable date at which the data must be drawn from (a 'snapshot date'). This date for the public sector is 31st March. There is no mandated date for the Pay Policy statement.

The main purpose of the Pay Policy statement is to review the pay ratio between the top of the organisation (Chief Executive and all Chief Officers) and (a) the remainder of the organisation (all employees minus Chief Executive/Chief Officers); and (b) those who are the lowest paid within the organisation. The data can therefore be taken at any point within the calendar year. In order to satisfy the requirement to report by the end of March the data is generally taken from the month of January.

The purpose of reporting on the Gender Pay Gap is to provide transparency on the difference between the hourly rate of pay between men and women. Typically organisations will have a Gender Pay Gap in favour of men. The government is committed to reducing the gap between men and women.

It is important to note the national picture for Gender Pay Gap reporting and to distinguish between having a Gender Pay Gap and equal pay.

The Gender Pay Gap is the pay discrepancy between men and women irrespective of their job or position. There are many reasons why an organisation will have a Gender Pay Gap which will be influenced by society as a whole.

That is distinct from equal pay - when companies are required to ensure that men and women carrying out the same or similar roles are paid the same for the amount of work they do.

See Section 5.2 for further details.

The figures given for the ratios under the Pay Policy Statement are provided in Sections 4.5 to 4.7.

The figures given for Gender Pay Gap ratio are provided in Section 5.1

## **4.0 Pay Policy Statement**

### **4.1 Definitions**

#### 4.1.1 Chief Officers

For the purposes of Mole Valley District Council's Pay Policy Statement the following posts are defined as Chief Officers.

- The Head of the Paid Service (Chief Executive)
- Section 151 Officer (Deputy Chief Executive)
- The Monitoring Officer
- Corporate Heads of Service reporting to the Head of Paid Service
- Corporate Heads of Service reporting to the Deputy Chief Executive/Section 151 Officer

“Employee who is not a Chief Officer” refers to all staff not covered under the “Chief Officer” group above. This includes the “lowest paid employees” and excludes staff governed by National consultation groups (e.g. Apprentices).

#### 4.1.2 Definition of “Lowest paid Employees”

“Lowest paid employees” refers to those staff employed up to and including scale point 9 of the Council's pay framework. Scale point 9 equates to £8.78 per hour and is therefore above the current ‘Real Living Wage’<sup>2</sup>. Whilst there is no national or local government definition of ‘lower paid’ it is generally used to refer to those paid below the ‘Real Living Wage’ therefore according to this interpretation there are no low paid employees. “Lowest paid employees” have been determined to be those at the bottom payscale which is in active use for the purposes of this report. This excludes staff governed by National consultation groups (e.g. Apprentices).

### **4.2 Pay framework principles and cost of living**

#### 4.2.1 General approach

Remuneration at all levels needs to be adequate to secure and retain high-quality employees dedicated to fulfilling the Council's business objectives and delivering services to the public. This has to be balanced by ensuring remuneration is not (and is not seen to be), unnecessarily excessive. Each Council has responsibility for balancing these factors and each council faces its own unique challenges and opportunities in doing so. Flexibility to cope with various circumstances that may arise is retained by the use of market supplements or other such mechanisms for individual categories of posts where appropriate. The Council has made a commitment to pay all employees the Real Living Wage (at the time of writing this is £8.75 per hour). It is our legal duty to pay employees at least the national minimum wage (£7.05 per hour), or the new ‘Living Wage’ for those over 25 (£7.50 per hour)<sup>2</sup>

#### 4.2.2 Responsibility for decisions on remuneration

With the exception of any groups where pay is governed by national consultation groups, pay for all employees bar the Chief Executive and Deputy Chief Executive is

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<sup>2</sup> The ‘Real Living wage’ is a voluntary minimum which employers can choose to adhere to. This is distinguished from the ‘National Living wage’ which is a legal minimum employers must pay to all workers over 25. (For workers under 25 the National Minimum Wage remains the legal minimum).

determined by the Chief Executive exercising the delegated powers as set out in the Constitution. Decisions on pay are determined according to the grading framework, details for which are set out below.

#### 4.2.3 Salary, grades and grading framework

All Mole Valley District Council staff are employed subject to locally agreed policies and other conditions of service.

Mole Valley District Council has a job grading system which is used to evaluate the grade of posts. This followed a national requirement for all Local Authorities and other public sector employers to review their pay and grading frameworks to ensure fair and consistent practice for different groups of workers with the same employer, in accordance with the legal principles relating to equal pay. The grade allocated to a post is determined by the duties, level of responsibility and competencies required as outlined in the job description and person specification.

Each employee is paid according to a pay scale based on the job evaluation of their role. The pay scale contains numbered incremental points. Employees can progress to the salary range maximum of their grade (the highest incremental point) subject to formal performance management based on management assessment. The evaluation framework does not apply to Chief Officers as a precise assessment of tasks and responsibilities is not possible or desirable at senior management team level.

Any employees transferred to Mole Valley through TUPE (e.g. shared services) have their pay (and other terms) protected on transfer in accordance with the legislation.

#### 4.2.4 Cost of living elements

The Council has a contractual commitment with staff to award a cost of living rise equivalent to at least the Local Government national pay award each year.

Incremental and cost of living increases are normally paid with effect from 1st April.

For the year 17/18 the staff pay award agreed by Council was 2%.

### **4.3 Mechanisms for approval of pay and appointments**

#### 4.3.1 The Chief Executive and Deputy Chief Executive:

The Chief Executive is appointed by the Council. The Deputy Chief Executive is also appointed by Members and this can be via a committee. The salaries of the Chief Executive and Deputy Chief Executive are determined by Members through the recruitment process.

The Chief Executive has delegated authority in the Constitution to make appointments and determine salaries for all officers other than those falling within the remit of Members.

#### 4.3.2 New starters joining the Council

Employees new to the Council will normally be appointed to the first point of the salary range for their grade.

Where the candidate's current employment package would make the first point of the salary range unattractive (and this can be demonstrated by the applicant in relation to current earnings) or where the employee already operates at a level commensurate with a higher salary, a higher salary may be considered by the recruiting manager providing it remains within the salary range for the grade.

These arrangements apply to all posts up to and including the Chief Executive and Deputy Chief Executive.

#### **4.4 Elements of Pay and Remuneration**

##### **4.4.1 Salary and other similar payments**

The Council operates a performance related pay scheme whereby all staff can be awarded a single increment on the salary scale which will determine their salary.

This is dependent on satisfactory performance throughout the year assessed through a performance review process by the appropriate line manager. Once an employee reaches the top of their salary scale there is no opportunity to earn more in that role. There are no additional performance related pay opportunities for Chief Officers.

In exceptional circumstances increments may be accelerated within the grade subject to the maximum of the grade not being exceeded. Any such accelerations are considered carefully in terms of the added value perceived as likely to lead to enhanced performance as well as assessment of prior strong performance through the performance review process. In the case of the Deputy Chief Executive such approval must be given by the Chief Executive. Any additional payments to the Chief Executive must be considered by the Council.

In addition there is scope subject to stringent criteria set out in Mole Valley District Council's Pay Policy to pay a market supplement. This is an additional, non-consolidated payment made to employees where the market value of their job is higher than the value placed on them by an internal pay structure. It is therefore intended to recognise the need to reflect external pressures whilst ensuring internal equity. Requests for market supplements require a business case to be approved by the Chief Executive in conjunction with advice from the s151 Officer and the line managers and are removed when circumstances change.

The Pay Policy also provides in exceptional circumstances for payment of recognition awards (a small one off lump sum) for exceptional and outstanding work over and above duties required in the job description. (These figures are referred to in Section 3 and reported under the gender pay gap reporting requirements given in section 5.1 as 'bonus payments' although the term bonus is not one that we would normally use given the very prescribed and limited circumstances in which it applies). These payments are subject to approval by the Chief Executive. There is no scope for such a payment to be paid to the Chief Executive or the Deputy Chief Executive.

In exceptional circumstances loyalty payments may be paid to retain employees where their function will cease at a future date and there is a need to maintain current service levels and staffing until that date. These payments are granted very rarely, only paid subject to the employees being in post at the future specified date, and must be approved by the Chief Executive and s151 Officer.

"Chief Officers" are subject to the same performance management process as the "lowest paid employees" and "employees who are not Chief Officers".

Chief Officers receive incremental progression until the top of their grade is reached.

#### 4.4.2 Charges, expenses, additional fees or allowances

Pay for all employees (including Chief Officers) comprises payments by way of salary, pensions, expenses legitimately incurred in connection with undertaking essential duties, and other standard required elements of contractual remuneration.

Fees for parish, borough and county elections vary according to the size of the electorate and number of postal voters and are calculated in line with the Surrey wide scheme. Payments for national and European elections are set by central government and are not paid by the Council as the money is reclaimed.

Prior to April 2012 Chief Officers and officers who required a car for the performance of their duties or who joined the authority where a car was part of their salary package were entitled to a lease car or car allowance. The lease car scheme is now closed but operating as a protected discontinued entitlement. Any vehicles secured under this discontinued benefit scheme post April 2012 must have a low CO2 emission level (below 120g/km).

Employees subsequently joining the authority who travel by virtue of their post in excess of 3,500 miles per year are entitled to a car allowance paid in monthly instalments. The amount paid is dependant on the engine size of the employee's vehicle. Employees have to pay tax and national insurance on this allowance. Business mileage necessarily incurred is paid dependent on the engine size subject to a prescribed maximum. These amounts are paid in accordance with HMRC guidance.

#### 4.4.3 Benefits in kind

Any benefits will need to meet the tests of being affordable and assisting retention and/or supporting or enhancing ability of staff to achieve optimum performance levels. Those considered to meet these tests currently include the following:

- Childcare voucher scheme to help working parents pay for registered childcare
- Preferential rates for local leisure centre membership and week day access to Dorking Swimming centre
- Access to an Employee Assistance Programme (EAP)
- Referral to an occupational health scheme where recommended by the line manager (i.e. if health issues are affecting job performance)
- Annual flu, blood pressure and wellbeing clinics (subject to availability)
- Training (external or internal) to meet job/professional qualification requirements or anticipated business requirements. This is subject to the establishment of a business case justifying any expenditure or authorised absence.

#### 4.4.4 Pension

All employees as a result of their employment are eligible to join the Local Government Pension Scheme. Following auto enrolment legislation, employees are automatically opted in to the scheme and need to actively elect to opt out. In addition, casual workers are also either opted in (depending on earnings thresholds),

or eligible to join. If the Officer is a member of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) the employer's contribution is paid.

In accordance with our Early Retirement Policy Mole Valley District Council considers requests from staff or new employees who wish to draw their pension but continue working in a reduced capacity where it is in the Council's interests to do so and taking account of the employer costs of early payment of flexible retirement pension benefits. All costs falling on the Council must be affordable, therefore a request should typically involve a substantial reduction in salary, through reduced hours and/or reduced level of responsibility (grade). Authority to approve such requests rests with the Council (for the Chief Executive); the Executive (for Corporate Heads of Service and the Deputy Chief Executive) and the Management team for all other staff.

#### 4.4.5 Severance Payments

Chief Officers who leave the Council's employment, where appropriate, will receive compensation in accordance with the Council's Policy to Manage Staff Changes or through a negotiated settlement the terms of which will be according to assessment of legal risk and consequent financial impact on the Council. In order to be eligible for redundancy payments, continuous service in line with legal eligibility is required (currently 2 years).

The Policy to Manage Staff Changes applies to all staff below the Chief Executive and the Deputy Chief Executive. In the event of the redundancy of the Chief Executive or Deputy Chief Executive any redundancy payment would need to be approved by Council.

The policy sets out a consistent method of calculating redundancy pay allowing a discretionary enhancement to the statutory system by using a multiplier of 2 with no statutory cap on weekly earnings.

The payment is intended to recompense employees for the loss of their livelihood and provide financial support whilst they seek alternative employment.

The Policy sets out how we will calculate any payments made to support early retirements in the efficiency of the service and is in compliance with current legislation pertaining to local government and the public sector as a whole. Payments are subject to the rules of the Surrey Pension scheme, and will generally only be made where they facilitate an employee leaving which will result in the Council being enabled to make savings, for example by restructuring. Payments made to the Chief Executive or Deputy Chief Executive as a result of their employment being terminated also have to be approved by Council.

With regards to re-employing former local government staff who have been made redundant, if there is less than a 4 week gap between someone being made redundant from another council and joining Mole Valley District Council they will be required to repay their redundancy payment to their previous employer. As future legislative changes take effect our Policy to Manage Staff Changes will be brought in line with requirements.

#### **4.5 Relationship between pay and remuneration of "Chief Officers" and "employees who are not Chief Officers"**

The calculations below were taken from data as of 9<sup>th</sup> January 2018.

The mean salary for Chief Officers (as defined in section 2 above) is £78,670.43 and for employees who are not Chief Officers it is £29,737.25.

Therefore the ratio of mean Chief Officer Pay to the mean pay of other employees is 2.6:1 (rounded).

The mean remuneration for Chief Officers is £96,522 and for employees who are not Chief Officers it is £31,231.00.

Therefore the ratio of mean Chief Officer remuneration to the remuneration of other employees is 3.0:1.

#### **4.6 Relationship between pay and remuneration of Chief Executive post and the lowest paid worker**

The total annual salary for the Chief Executive post (according to the relevant pay scales currently in place) is £112,000. Total remuneration is £132,723. Using information as at 9th January 2018 the lowest paid employee is paid £16,939 as a full time equivalent employee (including pension contributions this becomes £19,734.). This gives a ratio between the highest paid and lowest paid employees of 6.6:1 (rounded). Taking total remuneration into account the ratio 6.7:1

#### **4.7 Relationship between pay and remuneration of Chief Executive post and all other employees**

The mean salary of all employees excluding the Chief Executive is £30,687. Mean remuneration is £32,529. Therefore the pay ratio between the Chief Executive post and all other employees within the Council is 3.6:1 (rounded) for pay and 4.1:1 for total remuneration.

All the above ratios are therefore comfortably within the maximum ratio of 20:1 identified as a maximum pay multiple within the Hutton review of Fair Pay in the Public Sector.

### **5.0 Gender Pay Gap**

#### **5.1 Statutory figures**

The figures set out below have been calculated using the standard methodologies used in the Equality Act 2010 (Gender Pay Gap Information) Regulations 2017 with the specified snapshot date of 31st March 2017.

- The mean gender pay gap for MVDC is 10.2%
- The median gender pay gap for MVDC is 6.4%.
- The mean gender bonus<sup>3</sup> gap for MVDC is 69.6%.

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<sup>3</sup> See section 4.4.1 for applicability of 'bonus' payments under our Pay Policy Statement. It is not a term that we would normally use given the very prescribed and limited circumstances in which it applies. This figure relates to 4 males and 4 females – 7 of which relate to small recognition awards ('honorariums') paid to recognise when an individual has significantly exceeded their job requirements for a particular project/defined period (often reflecting situations where an employee has absorbed significant additional pressures - for example dealing with unexpected projects or covering more senior staff absence for a period. When compared to alternative options available payment of a small honorarium represents good value for money). The 8th payment relates to a lump sum retention payment made to cover a project of significant importance/value to the Council. This represents the male/female disparity.

- The median gender bonus<sup>3</sup> gap for MVDC is 29.7%.
- The proportion of male employees in MVDC receiving a bonus<sup>3</sup> is 2.5% and the proportion of female employees receiving a bonus is 2.2%.

Please note that the reporting requires calculations of the differences in mean/median hourly pay between women and men in proportion to the mean/median male hourly rate. This therefore means a positive figure illustrates a gender pay gap in favour of men (a negative figure thereby implying women are more highly paid as a mean/median relative to men).

#### Pay quartiles by gender

Band	Males	Females	Description
A	50.6%	49.4%	Includes all employees whose standard hourly rate places them at or below the lower quartile
B	34.8%	65.1%	Includes all employees whose standard hourly rate places them above the lower quartile but at or below the median
C	46.4%	53.6%	Includes all employees whose standard hourly rate places them above the median but at or below the upper quartile
D	56.5%	43.5%	Includes all employees whose standard hourly rate places them above the upper quartile

In the table above depicting pay quartiles by gender, MVDC's workforce is divided into four equal-sized groups based on hourly pay rates, with Band A including the lowest-paid 25% of employees (the lower quartile) and Band D covering the highest-paid 25% (the upper quartile). In order for there to be no gender pay gap, there would need to be an equal ratio of men to women in each Band.

Within MVDC there is almost an equal split of employees in Band A that are women compared to men. In Band B women are clearly the largest proportion, and this trend continues into Band C (though the difference is less marked). However by Band D the percentage of male employees is larger than the percentage of women (56.5% to 43.5%).

## 5.2 Equal Pay

Gender Pay Gap reporting is entirely separate from Equal Pay.

Under the law, men and women must receive equal pay for:

- the same or broadly similar work;
- work rated as equivalent under a job evaluation scheme; or
- work of equal value.

MVDC is committed to the principle of equal opportunities and equal treatment for all employees, regardless of sex, race, religion or belief, age, marriage or civil

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Recalculating the figure without the eighth individual results in both the mean and median figures reducing to 0.1%

partnership, pregnancy/maternity, sexual orientation, gender reassignment or disability. It has a clear policy of paying employees equally for the same or equivalent work, regardless of their sex (or any other characteristic set out above). As such, it:

- provides equalities training for all staff, requiring new staff to complete within the first month of joining and managers to repeat on a regular basis;
- evaluates all new and revised posts according to our grading framework to ensure fair pay on the basis of job requirements, benchmarked across other similar posts
- provides a mechanism for an employee to request a pay review in the event that they believe they have evidence of disparity
- requires all managers to assess job roles on at least an annual basis through the Performance and Development Review (PDR)

### **5.3 How does MVDC's gender pay gap compare with that of other organisations?**

The vast majority of organisations have a gender pay gap. From early research it appears that MVDC's gap compares favourably with that of other organisations. The mean gender pay gap for the whole economy (according to the October 2017 Office for National Statistics (ONS) Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE) figures) is 17.4%. At 10.2%, MVDC's mean gender pay gap is, therefore, significantly lower than that for the economy as a whole.

The median gender pay gap for the whole economy (according to the October 2017 ONS ASHE figures) is 18.4%. At 6.4 %, MVDC's median gender pay gap is, therefore, also significantly lower than that for the economy as a whole.

The data that we have pertaining to local government at the time of writing demonstrates a wide range of Gender Pay Gaps – including those significantly higher than the gap for Mole Valley to negative statistics (demonstrating the hourly rate of pay for women, on average, is higher than for men). Where authorities have large numbers of males within the lower pay quartiles it is more likely that the result will be a Gender Pay Gap in favour of men. Authorities with a large direct labour force for manual workers (e.g. refuse collectors) therefore have a greater chance of being in this position. As Mole Valley District Council has outsourced its waste collection service it does not have a large manual labour workforce.