

Policy Title: Annual Fees, Allowances and Expenses for Councillors

Policy Statement:

To determine the level of fees, allowances and expenses to be paid to Councillors annually are as follows:

Chairperson: The annual regional local government allowance for the Chairperson (in addition to any fees or reimbursements of expenses payable under the LG Act and LG Regulations) is to be the maximum amount within the prescribed legislation.

Deputy Chairperson: An annual regional local government allowance is to be paid to the Deputy Mayor (in addition to any fees or reimbursements of expenses payable under the LG Act and LG Regulations), which is 25% of the annual local government allowance payable to the Chairperson within prescribed legislation.

Councillor: In lieu of paying Members a meeting attendance fee for Council, Committee or prescribed meetings, MRC will pay the maximum amount within the range set by the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal through a determination published in the Government Gazette from time to time.

Deputy Councillor: Nil.

ICT Expenses Allowance: Council Members are to be paid the maximum annual amount for ICT Expenses each year within the range set by the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal through a determination published in the Government Gazette from time to time.

Other Expenses to be Reimbursed: A claim for childcare, travel and/or other relevant expenses will be paid on receipt of sufficient information verifying the expense incurred. Payment will be limited to the amount specified in legislation.

2. All meeting fees and allowances to which the elected members are entitled, are to be paid monthly in arrears from 01 July 2024. Payments will be made by direct deposit in arrears. Allowances will be paid on a pro-rata basis where Councillors hold office for only a portion of the year.

3. The fees and allowances are increased in line with the determination of the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal effective from the date of the determination, made in accordance with the Salaries and Allowances Act 1975.

Legislation	Local Government Act 1995 s.5.98., 5.98A., 5.99., 5.99A. Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996 Regs.30-34AB
Responsible Officer	Chief Executive Officer
Council Meeting Date	30 May 2024
Review History	18/04/2002, 07/06/2005, 06/07/2006, 23/10/2008, 25/10/2012, 02/05/2013, 05/09/2013, 04/09/2014, 20/08/2015; 01/09/2016; 14/09/2017; 14/08/2018;

	13/08/2019; 18/06/2020, 12/08/2021; 31/0/2022; 21/09/2023;
Next Review Date	01/05/2025
Revision History	<p>04/09/2014 – Increase in fees/allowances provided to councillors as determined by SAT. New part 4.</p> <p>14/08/2018 clarification regarding pro rata payments</p> <p>21/11/2019 – Deputy Councillor meeting fee removed</p> <p>12/08/2021 - no change</p> <p>11/04/2022 SAT 2.5% increase</p> <p>12/04/2023 SAT 1.5% increase</p> <p>30/05/2024 SAT 4% increase, change from twice yearly payments to monthly payments in arrears, inclusion of maximum amount for ICT Expense allowance</p>
Delegation to the Chief Executive Officer	Nil