



Report: 04.615
Date: 3 November 2004
File: E/5/2/3

Committee: Council
Author: Councillor Buchanan, Chairperson

Remuneration of Elected Members

1. Purpose

To adopted a remuneration proposal for submission to the Remuneration Authority.

2. Background

The Remuneration Authority sets the remuneration of elected members of local authorities. Remuneration includes a salary, payment for resource consent hearings and allowances and expenses.

The Authority has developed a model that provides a remuneration pool for each local authority. The pool is reviewed annually and for regional councils is based on population (30%), expenses (25%), assets (15%), and capital value (25%).

This year the Authority has set the pool for the year and issued an interim determination that applies from the election until a new remuneration regime is adopted by the Council and approved by the Authority. The pool is \$765,216.

The Council must determine the way in which the pool, minus the Chairperson's salary, is split up between the remaining members. This could be by salary only, or by salary and meeting fees. The Council must also decide on its policy of allowances and expenses.

The remuneration regime must be formally adopted at a meeting of Council and forwarded to the Authority. As long as the recommendations received are reasonable and unanimous, the Authority is very likely to accept them. Any dissent must be sent to the Authority which will then determine the matter.

3. Recommended remuneration region

I recommend the following remuneration for our Council:

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|---|----------|
| Deputy Chairperson with Committee | \$65,485 |
| Committee Chairperson | \$62,757 |
| Chairperson Planning and Monitoring Sub-committee | \$52,525 |
| Councillor | \$42,058 |

In terms of the current policy on allowances and expenses, it is my recommendation that this be confirmed with the addition of the provision of a mobile phone for the Chairperson for use on Council business.

4. **Communication**

The Council's decision will be reported to the Remuneration Authority.

5. **Recommendations**

1. *That the Council **adopts** the following annual salaries*

- *Council Deputy Chairperson with Committee- \$65,485*
- *Committee Chairpersons - \$62,757*
- *Chairperson Planning and Monitoring Sub-committee - \$52,525*
- *Councillors -\$42,058*

2. *That the current Policy on Elected Members' Allowances and Expenses be **re-confirmed** with the following amendment to section 2.8 Mobile phones:*

“The Council will provide a mobile phone for the Chairperson and cover all expenses associated with the use of that phone. The phone remains the property of the Council. The Chairperson will not receive the mobile phone allowance paid to other members.”

Report prepared by:

Councillor Buchanan
Chairperson