



# **CITY OF JOONDALUP**

Policy for  
Payment of Fees, Allowances  
and Expenses  
and the Provision of Facilities to  
the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors.

**December 2001**

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## **APPENDIX A**

### **APPLICABLE LEGISLATION**

Relevant provisions of the Local Government Act 1995 and Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996

## **PART 1 - PRELIMINARY**

### **1.1 Title**

This policy may be referred to as the City of Joondalup Payment of Fees, Allowances and Expenses and Provision of facilities to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors.

### **1.2 Commencement**

This policy shall come into operation on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2002.

### **1.3 Legal Framework**

This policy has been prepared to conform with the provisions relevant to Elected Member entitlements under the Local Government Act 1995 and Regulations made under that Act. The particular Sections of the Local Government Act 1995 or Regulations relating to Elected Member's fees allowances or expenses to be met in accordance with this policy, have been outlined in appropriate areas of this policy for ease of reference.

### **1.4 Expense Period**

For the purpose of calculating expenses and application of limits set and applied under this policy, the Annual Expense Period shall be from May to May in the following year.

## **PART 2 – PROVISION OF FACILITIES**

### **2.1 Objective**

To provide elected members with appropriate facilities, equipment, material and information to support them in performing their duties of office.

### **2.2 Mayor**

- (1) The Mayor shall, in carrying out the duties and responsibilities of that office, be entitled to receive the benefit of the following facilities without the reduction of the fees and allowances approved by Council under Section 5.98, 5.98A, 5.99 and 5.99A of the Local Government Act 1995 :-
  - (a) The provision of a V8 Ford Fairlane or equivalent luxury sedan type motor vehicle with unrestricted use for all official and social duties connected to the office of Mayor and for personal private use.
  - (b) Membership of the Qantas Club;
  - (c) The cost of functions attended as a member of the 250 Club provided all membership fees are paid personally by the Mayor;

- (d) The cost of attending any breakfast, dinner or similar function where invited as the Mayor and representative of the City provided such function does not fall into the category of a conference as defined in clause 5.3 of this policy or is for election purposes;
  - (e) Suitable office accommodation within the Civic Centre;
  - (f) Secretarial services including word processing, photocopying, printing, postage, facsimile and telephone facilities;
  - (g) Administrative assistance associated with any Council functions, meetings, publications and the like;
  - (h) Access to the elected Members Lounge and Office refreshments;
- (2) All equipment and facilities subject of this policy, are provided to the Mayor on the absolute understanding that they will not be used for any election purposes.

### **2.3 Deputy Mayor and Councillors**

- (1) The Deputy Mayor and Councillors shall, in carrying out the duties and responsibilities of that office, be entitled to receive the benefit of the following facilities without the reduction (unless otherwise stated) of the fees and allowances under Section 5.98, 5.98A, 5.99 and 5.99A of the Act:-
- (a) Access to the Elected Member Lounge and refreshments;
  - (b) Access to suitably equipped shared office accommodation, reading room, ward meeting and conference rooms within the Civic Centre;
  - (c) Secretarial support including limited word processing, photocopying, printing, postage, facsimile and telephone facilities;
  - (d) The cost of attending any breakfast, dinner or similar function where invited as the Deputy Mayor or Councillor and representative of the City or Ward, provided such function does not fall into the category of a conference
- (2) All equipment and facilities subject of this policy, are provided to the Deputy Mayor and Councillors on the absolute understanding that they will not be used for any election purposes.

## **PART 3 – ISSUE AND RETURN OF COUNCIL EQUIPMENT**

### **3.1 Objective**

A person elected to the office of Mayor or Councillor of the City shall be issued with various items of equipment, documentation, etc that are considered helpful in the performance of their duties as an Elected Member.

This policy details the equipment, documents, stationery and other items that will be issued to Elected Members and the conditions that apply.

### **3.2 Equipment**

Unless otherwise advised, the following equipment will be issued to Elected Members:

- (a) 1 mobile telephone (Replaceable after each 2 years)
- (b) Mobile telephone hands free kit installed in vehicle (Optional)
- (c) Facsimile/answering machine
- (d) Personal computer or laptop computer and printer and dedicated telephone line
- (e) 4 pin power board
- (f) Elected Member lounge key
- (g) Security card/Building Access Card and ID Card
- (h) Satchel or briefcase (optional)
- (i) 1 City of Joondalup vehicle licence number plate, selection of numbers 2 to 20 (optional)

### **3.3 Documentation**

The following documentation will be issued to Elected Members:

- (a) Committee members booklet
- (b) Community Directory
- (c) Local Government Act 1995
- (d) Local Laws Manual
- (e) Policy Manual
- (f) Civic & Corporate Procedures manual
- (g) Code of Conduct
- (h) Western Australian Municipal Association - Elected Member Manual
- (i) Internal Telephone directory
- (j) Planning Scheme text and report
- (k) Budget
- (l) Service Agreement – Elected Members & Information Services Business Unit

### **3.4 Other**

The following items will be issued to Elected Members:

- (a) Name badge
- (b) Business cards
- (c) Appropriate stationery
- (d) Computer desk (optional)
- (e) Pair safety footwear (optional)
- (f) Hard hat (optional)
- (g) Street directory
- (h) Filing cabinet (upon request)
- (i) Elected Member Uniform issue (non -compulsory)  
(1 Jacket, 2 Trousers/Skirts and Shirts/Blouses)

### **3.5 Mobile Phone Facilities**

- (1) Elected Members may have a mobile phone hands free kit installed in their vehicle. A hands free kit will not be installed in the last six months of an Elected Member's term. An Elected Member is eligible for the transfer of the mobile phone equipment at the cost of the City to another vehicle once every two years. If the mobile phone equipment is to be transferred more than once every two years, then the second and subsequent transfer shall be at the cost of the Elected Member.
- (2) Elected Members may have memo or message bank facilities connected to their Council allocated mobile telephone.

### **3.6 Return of Equipment Issued**

- (1) An Elected Member retiring after serving a term of two years or more, is entitled to retain equipment issued by Council with the exception of:
  - (a) Any equipment that is less than two years old (excepting mobile phones, refer clause (3) below);
  - (b) Equipment leased by Council;
  - (c) Security Card/Building Access Card and ID Card;
  - (d) Elected Member Lounge Key.
- (2) An Elected Member retiring after serving less than two years is not entitled to retain equipment or material issued by Council other than clothing and stationery.
- (3) Retiring Elected Members may retain their Council allocated mobile phone and hands free kit by paying the City the agreed written down value of the mobile phone. The retiring Elected Member shall bear all costs associated with the transfer of the mobile phone to their name.

- (4) Retiring Elected Members who choose not to retain the mobile phone hands free kit will have it removed from their vehicle at the cost of the City.
- (5) Retiring elected members are to return the Council issued vehicle licence number to the City within fourteen (14) days of ceasing to be an elected member. Any costs associated with the transfer of the elected member's vehicle licence number plate shall be met by the City.
- (6) When equipment is returned to Council, that equipment will be issued to the newly Elected Member provided that the balance of the term of office to be served is less than two years.

### **3.7 Equipment to be Appropriate**

All equipment issued shall be reviewed on a regular basis to ensure that the technology is appropriate for the needs of Elected Members.

## **PART 4 – PAYMENT OF FEES AND ALLOWANCES**

### **4.1 Objective**

To detail the amount of fees, allowances, payment structure and conditions under which those fees and allowances shall be paid to Elected Members, as resolved by Council in accordance with Sections 5.98, 5.98A, 5.99 and 5.99A of the Local Government Act 1995.

### **4.2 Meeting Attendance Fees**

Council has resolved to pay the maximum amount within the prescribed limit that may be claimed annually for meeting attendance fees for the Mayor, being \$12,000 and for Councillors \$6,000.

### **4.3 Annual Local Government Allowances - Mayor and Deputy Mayor**

Council has resolved to pay the maximum Annual Local Government Allowance within the prescribed limit that may be paid to the Mayor, being \$60,000 and for Deputy Mayor being \$15,000.

### **4.4 Telecommunications Allowance**

- (1) Council has resolved to pay all elected members an annual telecommunication allowance of \$2,000.

- (2) The annual telecommunication allowance is for costs relating to Council provided mobile telephone and facsimile machine and call costs incurred relating to Council business on a personal telephone/facsimile machine.
- (3) Any claims by elected members for expenses incurred over the \$2000 annual telecommunication allowance are to be submitted on the form provided. (Additional claims above the \$2000 must be supported by receipted invoices for the \$2000 and the additional amounts claimed).  
***Refer to clause 5 under Reimbursement of Expenses.***

#### **4.5 Conditions of Payment**

- (1) Payment of meeting fees and allowances under this policy, shall be subject to the following conditions:
  - (a) The meeting fees, allowances for Mayor and Deputy Mayor and annual telecommunication allowance, shall be paid monthly in arrears unless an elected member has advised the CEO in writing that they do not want to claim any or part of those fees and allowances. Without advice to the contrary, payment of the fees and allowances will be automatic.
  - (b) If payment is not accepted initially, subsequent requests for payment will be accrued from the date of such request.
  - (c) Payment is applicable to each Expense Period;
  - (d) Each elected member regularly attends Council meetings and carries out other normal duties of the office;
  - (e) The taxation liability arising from these payments is the individual responsibility of each elected member;
- (2) The value of fees and allowances included in this policy shall be reviewed at the Ordinary Council Meeting following each bi annual election.

## **PART 5 – ATTENDANCE AT CONFERENCES AND TRAINING WITHIN AUSTRALIA**

### **5.1 Objective**

To detail the annual amounts and guidelines for Elected Members attendance at local, interstate and overseas conferences, seminars, lectures, courses and sister city visits. Elected Members are encouraged to attend appropriate conferences and training to enable them to be more informed and better able to fulfill their duties of office.

## **5.2 Annual Conference and Training Expense Allocation**

- (1) The following annual conference and training expense allocation shall be made available to elected members:
  - (a) The Mayor shall be entitled to an annual expense allocation of \$10,000; and
  - (b) All Councillors shall be entitled to an annual expense allocation of \$5,000.
- (2) In addition to the annual expense allocation detailed in clause (1)(a) above, the Mayor shall be entitled to attend the Annual WALGA and ALGA conferences.

## **5.3 Definition**

In this part, “Conferences and Training” means conferences, seminars, congresses, forums, workshops, courses, meetings deputations, information and training sessions and events related to the industry of local government and held within Australia.

## **5.4 Approval Process**

- (1) Elected Members may be nominated and authorised to attend conferences and training by:
  - (a) The Council through a resolution passed at a Council Meeting;
  - (b) The CEO acting within delegated authority.
- (2) Under this Policy, Authority is delegated to the CEO:
  - (a) to authorise Elected Members attendance at conferences and training;
  - (b) to nominate and authorise a substitute Elected Member to attend any conference in lieu of the Mayor or another nominated or authorised Elected Member.

## **5.5 Conferences and Training that may be attended**

The conferences and training to which this policy applies shall generally be limited to:

- (a) West Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) and Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) conferences;

- (b) Special “one off” conferences called or sponsored by or for the WALGA and/or ALGA on important issues;
- (c) Annual Conferences of the major Professions in Local Government;
- (d) Australian Sister Cities Conferences;
- (e) City of Joondalup Councillor Induction Program;
- (f) Municipal Training Service’s Councillor Induction Program;
- (g) WALGA Elected Member Training and Development;
- (h) Training Courses relevant to their portfolio or committee responsibilities; and
- (i) other local government specific training courses, workshops and forums, relating to such things as understanding roles/responsibilities of Elected Members, meeting procedures, etc.

## **5.6 Payment of Conference and Training Costs**

### **(1) Payment from Conference and Training Allocation**

Council will pay Conference or Training costs where the Elected Member has been nominated and authorised to attend and there is sufficient funds remaining within the Elected Members Annual Conference and Training Expense Allocation.

### **(2) Booking Arrangements**

Registration, travel and accommodation for Elected Members will be arranged through the Office of the Chief Executive Officer with the appropriate Council discount for travel and accommodation being provided. All costs including airfares, registration fees and accommodation will be paid direct by the City.

### **(3) Registration**

The City will pay all normal registration costs for Elected Members/delegates that are charged by organisers, including those costs relating to official luncheons, dinners and tours/inspections that are relevant to the interests of the Council.

(4) Accommodation

- (a) The Council will pay reasonable accommodation costs for Elected Members including the night before and/or after the conference where this is necessary because of travel and/or conference timetables.
- (b) Where available, accommodation shall normally be booked at the conference venue.

(5) Conference Travel

- (a) Where travel is involved, the travel is to be undertaken with all due expedition, by the shortest most practical route, to and from the conference. All reasonable travel costs for Elected Members/delegates to and from the conference location and venue will be met by the Council.
- (b) Approval for air travel must where possible, be sought two months prior to departure.
- (c) Air travel standards will apply as follows unless varied with the prior approval of the Council:

	<b>Inter &amp; Intra State</b>	<b>Overseas</b>
Elected Members	Business Class	Economy Class

If Business Class is not available, Economy Class is to be used.

- (d) If accommodation is at the conference venue or in close proximity, taxis should be used. Where necessary, a hire car may be arranged for the conduct of Council business. Costs of taxi fares, vehicle hire and parking which are reasonable, required and incurred in attending conferences, will be reimbursed by the Council.
- (e) Where in particular circumstances Elected Members desire to travel interstate by private motor vehicle, they will be reimbursed for actual accommodation costs which are receipted and vehicle costs in accordance with the local government kilometre allowance up to an equivalent amount that would have been expended had arrangements been made to travel by air.

- (6) Daily Allowance- Payment and Reimbursement.
- (a) An advance of \$90 per day for interstate travel and \$140 per day for overseas travel shall be made available for food, drink and incidental expenses.
  - (b) The administrative arrangements for managing this will be the most appropriate to the circumstances in the view of the Chief Executive Officer.
  - (c) The Daily Expense Allowance shall be paid to cover all reasonable incidental expenses associated with the conference attendance such as:
    - (i) hotel/motel charges other than accommodation, ie. laundry;
    - (ii) reasonable telephone or facsimile use;
    - (iii) breakfasts, lunches, dinners and other meals not included in the conference registration fee;
    - (iv) any optional activity in a conference program.
  - (d) The Daily Expense Allowance shall not cover:
    - (i) any expenses or time occupied on matters other than Council business;
    - (ii) meal claims where meals are provided at a conference.
  - (e) Documentary evidence in the form of original invoices and receipts must be provided for the acquittal of all advances. All advances must be acquitted within one week of the Elected Member returning to Perth. Amounts not acquitted shall be refunded to the City.

## **5.7 Elected Member/Delegate Accompanying Person**

- (1) Where an Elected Member is accompanied at a conference, all costs for or incurred by the accompanying person including but not limited to travel, breakfast, meals, registration and/or participation in any conference programs, are to be borne by the Elected Member/accompanying person and not by the Council. The exception to the above being the cost of attending any official conference dinner where partners would normally attend.

- (2) An accompanying person's registration, or accompanying person's program fees, are to be paid to the conference organiser, at time of registration. The Council is prepared to receive such registration and payments to forward them on to the conference organiser, with any Council delegates' registration.
- (3) Where the Council meets, an account containing any expenditure or cost incurred on behalf of an accompanying person attending, such expenditure must be repaid to the Council by the Elected Member/accompanying person within seven (7) days of being invoiced for such expenditure following the conclusion of the conference.

## **5.8 Guidelines for Conference Attendance**

- (1) Subject to the provisions of clause 5.2 "Annual Conference and Training Expense Allocation" the guidelines detailed in this clause shall apply.
- (2) Elected members may attend several local conferences but only one requiring overnight stay, per expense period (May to May). Should any member wish to attend an additional local conference requiring overnight stay, that request shall be referred to Council for approval.
- (3) No more than two elected members may attend a particular conference, seminar, lecture or course outside Western Australia at the same time. The CEO or Council may however approve attendance by more than two members if a particular purpose or need arises.
- (4) Elected members may attend two interstate conferences, seminars, lectures, training and courses during a two year period between Council elections. (ie May to May in election years).
- (5) Elected Members will only be registered for conference/training courses itemised in this policy, if the elected member has sufficient funds in their annual conference and training expense allocation to meet the costs. Where there are insufficient funds to meet cost of requested conference or training in the elected member's conference and training allocation, Council approval must be obtained before costs are incurred.
- (6) The cost of training that is specifically arranged for attendance by all elected members, (eg teambuilding) shall be paid from a separate allocation for the purpose and not considered as part of and debited to the individual elected members allocation referred to in this policy.

- (7) (a) Subject to Council approval, an Elected Member may agree to meet the costs and forfeit same from their own annual conference and training allocation, of sending another elected member to a conference or training, where that member has insufficient funds remaining in their allocation.
- (b) In such cases, the elected member agreeing to meet those costs, shall provide the CEO with a written statement to that effect, signed by both elected members and authorising the CEO to initiate necessary arrangements and debit the authorising members allocation.
- (c) Initiation of the necessary arrangements to allow the elected member to attend a conference under the above circumstances, will only proceed if there is sufficient funds remaining in the overall Council Budget for elected members conferences and training.

## **PART 6 – ATTENDANCE AT OVERSEAS CONFERENCES**

- (1) An Elected Member may, with Council approval, attend an overseas conference.
- (2) An Elected Member planning to attend an overseas conference may, after providing written notice to the CEO of their intention to do so, carry forward into the next expense period, any unspent amount from their Annual Conference and Training Allocation. The written notice shall be provided to the CEO before the end of May for budget purposes.
- (3) The unspent amount carried forward from the previous expense period shall be added to the next expense period conference allocation and be used to meet the costs of an overseas conference related to the local government industry as detailed in PART 5, section 5.5 of this policy.
- (4) Attendance at an overseas conference is subject to authorisation being obtained from Council prior to departure, with a specific Council resolution supporting that the conference attendance will be of benefit to the City and the Elected Member and detailing any conditions that may apply.

## **PART 7 – REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES**

### **7.1 Objective**

To provide for the reimbursement of expenses necessarily incurred by elected members while performing their duties so that no Elected Member should be unreasonably disadvantaged financially due to meeting the requirements of their office.

## **7.2 Child Care**

- (1) The payment of child care costs is covered under Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996, Regulation 31(1)(b) and 31(3) and (5) refers. An extract of those regulations is reproduced as follows:

Reg. 31(1)(b) “child care and travel costs incurred by a council member because of a member’s attendance at a council meeting or a meeting of a committee of which he or she is a member.”

Reg 31 (3) “The extent to which child care costs referred to in sub regulation (1) (b) can be reimbursed is the actual cost per hour or \$10.00 per hour which ever is the lesser amount.”

Reg 31 (3) “For the purposes of subregulations (2) to (4), actual amounts and actual costs are to be verified by sufficient information.”

- (2) In accordance with Regulation 31, child care costs will be paid for an elected member’s attendance at a council meeting or a meeting of a committee of which he or she is a member and the expense is to be claimed on the form provided.
- (3) Where an Elected Member attends any other meeting, reception, citizenship or other Council function, or Council related activity and incurs child care costs, such costs may be claimed provided they are substantiated with details of the date, activity attended, the actual costs incurred and original receipts being provided and attached to the claim form.
- (4) Child care costs are applicable for children, either of natural birth or guardianship determined by legal process.
- (5) Child care costs will not be paid for where the care is provided by a member of the immediate family or relative living in the same premises as the Elected Member.
- (6) Child care costs shall be debited to a separate account in the budget and not be debited to or form part of an Elected Members Annual Expense Reimbursement Limit as referred to in clause 7.3 of this policy.

## **7.3 Travel**

- (1) Travel costs incurred and paid by Elected Members will be reimbursed for:
- (a) Travel and parking expenses incurred by a member using a private vehicle to, from and attending:-
- (i) meetings of the Council or a Committee of the Council and civic functions;

- (ii) as a delegate of the Council to statutory and other boards and committees, community organisations, conferences, local government association or industry groups or committees of them;
  - (iii) a specific request or instruction of the Council and/or including inspection, ratepayer/electors requests or other Council duty;
  - (iv) attending social functions where the member is representing the Mayor or is attending by resolution of Council or where the function is an otherwise authorised activity;
- (b) The amount payable in respect of travelling expenses shall be paid from the time the Returning Officer has declared a person elected as a Council member.
  - (c) Travel expenses claimed under this policy are to be calculated in accordance with the rate per kilometre prescribed for the class of vehicle as detailed in the Local Government Officers' Award where the members vehicle is used.
  - (d) A claim for reimbursement of expenses form indicating the date, particulars of travel, nature of business, distance travelled, vehicle displacement and total travelled in kilometres, is to be completed by members to ensure that the transport expense can be verified.
- (2) Where it is deemed to be otherwise more appropriate for an Elected Member to travel to a Council related commitment, a taxi may be used and the costs incurred claimed.
  - (3) All expenses claimed other than travel in a members own vehicle, must have been incurred and substantiated with provision of original invoices/receipts attached to the claim form, prior to being reimbursed on a monthly basis.

#### **7.4 Other Specified Expenses**

- (1) An Annual Reimbursement Limit of \$500 shall be available to Elected Members for reimbursement of costs incurred and paid by Elected Members for:
  - (a) Clothing, suit hire and dry cleaning of clothes worn for Council business;
  - (b) Protocol gifts as approved by the House Committee.
  - (c) Communication costs incurred above the communication allowance under Part 4 of this policy (currently \$2000), for:-

- (i) call costs associated with the Council provided mobile telephone and facsimile machine and
- (ii) call costs incurred by the member relating to Council business, on a personal telephone/facsimile machine;

provided all such costs up to and over the \$2,000 limit are substantiated;

- (2) Costs incurred and paid by Elected Members will be reimbursement by Council up to the reimbursement limit in each expense period. When a member reaches the limit, all claims for reimbursement shall be referred to the Council for approval.
- (3) All expenses claimed must have been incurred and substantiated with provision of original invoices/receipts attached to the claim form, prior to being reimbursed on a monthly basis.
- (5) Original invoices and receipts are required for audit purposes and to enable GST to be claimed. Where a GST refund is received it will be credited to the Elected Members Expense Reimbursement record.

#### **7.5 Time Limit on Claims**

Members electing to receive reimbursement of expenses in accordance with the provisions of this policy shall submit the appropriate claim form, together with supporting documentation, within 2 clear calendar months after the month in which the expenses were incurred. Expenses not claimed within such time shall be deemed forfeited.

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## APPENDIX A

### PROVISIONS OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1995 AND ADMINISTRATION REGULATIONS 1996

#### 8.1 Local Government Act 1995 - Extracts

The following information is considered that most applicable to the contents of this policy. The information has been extracted from the Local Government Act 1995.

#### *Division 8 – Fees, expenses and allowances*

##### **Fees etc. for council members**

- 5.98.** (1) A council member who attends a council or committee meeting is entitled to be paid –
- (a) the prescribed minimum fee for attending a council or committee meeting; or
  - (b) where the local government has set a fee within the prescribed range for council or committee meeting attendance fees, that fee.
- (2) A council member who incurs An expense of a kind prescribed as being an expense –
- (a) to be reimbursed by all local governments; or
  - (b) which may be approved by any local government for reimbursement by the local government and which has been approved by the local government for reimbursement,
- is entitled to be reimbursed for the expense in accordance with subsection (3).
- (3) A council member to whom subsection (2) applies is to be reimbursed for the expense –
- (a) where the minimum extent of reimbursement for the expense has been prescribed, to the extent; or
  - (b) where the local government has set the extent to which the expense can be reimbursed and that extent is within the prescribed range (if any) of reimbursement, to that extent.

- (4) If an expense is of a kind that may be approved by a local government for reimbursement, then the local government may approve reimbursement of the expense either generally or in a particular case but nothing in this subsection limits the application of subsection (3) where the local government has approved reimbursement of the expense in a particular case.
- (5) The mayor or president of a local government is entitled, in addition to any entitlement that he or she has under subsection (1) or (2), to be paid –
  - (a) the prescribed minimum annual local government allowance for mayors or presidents; or
  - (b) where the local government has set an annual local government allowance within the prescribed range for annual local government allowances for mayors or presidents, that allowance.
- (6) A local government cannot –
  - (a) make any payment to or
  - (b) reimburse an expense of,  
  
a person who is a council member or a mayor or president in that person's capacity as a council member, mayor or president unless the payment or reimbursement is in accordance with this Division.
- (7) A reference in this section to a "committee meeting" is a reference to a meeting of a committee comprising –
  - (a) council members only; or
  - (b) council members and employees.

### **Allowance for deputy mayor or deputy president**

- 5.98A.** (1) A local government may decide\* to pay the deputy mayor or deputy president of the local government an allowance of up to the prescribed percentage of the annual local government allowance to which the mayor or president is entitled under section 5.98(5).

*\* Absolute majority required.*

- (2) An allowance under subsection (1) is to be paid in addition to any amount to which the deputy mayor or deputy president is entitled under section 5.98.

## **Annual fee for council members in lieu of fees for attending meetings**

**5.99.** A local government may decide\* that instead of paying council members a fee referred to in section 5.98 (1), it will instead pay all council members who attend council or committee meetings –

- (a) the prescribed minimum annual fee; or
- (b) where the local government has set a fee within the prescribed range for annual fees, that fee.

*\* Absolute majority required.*

## **Allowances for council members in lieu of reimbursement of expenses**

**5.99A.** A local government may decide\* that instead of reimbursing council members under section 5.98(2) for all of a particular type of expense it will instead pay all council members –

- (a) the prescribed minimum annual allowance for that type of expense; or
- (b) where the local government has set an allowance within the prescribed range for annual allowances for that type of expense, an allowance of that amount,

and only reimburse the member for expenses of that type in excess of the amount of the allowance.

*\* Absolute majority required ”*

## **8.2 Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996**

The following information extracted from the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996 is considered that most applicable to the contents of this policy.

### **“Meeting attendance fees – s.5.98 (1)**

- 30.** (1) For the purpose of section 5.98 (1), subject to subregulation (3) –
- (a) the minimum fee for a council member other than –
    - (i) the mayor or president; or
    - (ii) in the case of a regional local government, the chairman, attending a council meeting is \$50 for each meeting; and

- (b) maximum fee for a council member other than –
  - (i) the mayor or president; or
  - (ii) in the case of a regional local government, the chairman, attending a council meeting is \$120 for each meeting.
- (2) For the purpose of section 5.98 (1), subject to subregulation (3) or (5), as the case requires –
  - (a) the minimum fee for a council member attending a meeting of a committee of which he or she is also a member is \$25 for each meeting and;
  - (b) the maximum fee for a council member attending a meeting of a committee of which he or she is also a member is \$60 for each meeting.
- (3) The total fee paid to a council member other than –
  - (a) the mayor or president; or
  - (b) in the case of a regional local government, the chairman, for attending a council meetings (whether of the council or of any committee) in each year is not to exceed \$6,000.
- (4) For the purpose of section 5.98 (1), subject to subregulation (5) –
  - (a) the minimum fee –
    - (i) for the mayor or president; or
    - (ii) in the case of a regional local government, for the chairman, attending a council meeting is \$100 for each meeting; and
  - (a) the maximum fee –
    - (i) for the mayor or president; or
    - (ii) in the case of a regional local government, for the chairman, attending a council meeting is \$240 for each meeting.

- (5) The total fees paid –
  - (a) to the mayor or president; or
  - (b) in the case of a regional local government, to the chairman, for attending meetings (whether of the council or of any committee) in each year is not to exceed \$12,000.

**Expenses that are to be reimbursed – s. 5.98 (2) (a) and (3)**

- 31.**
- (1) For the purposes of section 5.98 (2) (a), the kinds of expenses that are to be reimbursed by all local governments are –
    - (a) rental charges incurred by a council member in relation to one telephone and one facsimile machine; and
    - (b) child care and travel costs incurred by a council member because of the member's attendance at a council meeting or a meeting of a committee of which he or she is also a member.
  - (2) The extent to which an expense referred to in subregulation (1) (a) can be reimbursed is the actual amount.
  - (3) The extent to which child care costs referred to in subregulation (1) (b) can be reimbursed is the actual cost per hour or \$10.00 per hour, whichever is the lesser amount.
  - (4) The extent to which travel costs referred to in subregulation (1) (b) can be reimbursed –
    - (a) if the person lives or works in the local government district or an adjoining local government district, is the actual cost for the person to travel from the person's place of residence or work to the meeting and back; or
    - (b) if the person does not live or work in the local government district or an adjoining local government district, is the actual cost, in relation to a journey from the person's place of residence or work and back –
      - (i) for the person to travel from the person's place of residence or work to the meeting and back; or
      - (ii) if the distance travelled referred to in subparagraph (I) is more than 100km, for the person to travel from the outer boundary of an adjoining local government district to the meeting and back to that boundary.

- (5) For the purposes of subregulations (2) to (4), actual amounts and actual costs are to be verified by sufficient information.

### **Expenses that may be approved for reimbursement – s.5.98 (2) (b) and (3)**

- 3.2** (1) For the purposes of section 5.98 (2) (b), the kinds of expenses that may be approved by any local government for reimbursement by the local government are –
- (a) an expense incurred by a council member in performing a function under the express authority of the local government;
  - (b) an expense incurred by a council member to whom paragraph (a) applied by reason of the council member being accompanied by not more than one other person while performing the function if, having regard to the nature of the function, the local government considers that it is appropriate for the council member to be accompanied by that other person; and
  - (c) an expense incurred by a council member in performing a function in his or her capacity as a council member.
- (2) The extent to which an expense referred to in subregulation (1) can be reimbursed is the actual amount, verified by sufficient information.

### **Annual entertainment allowances for mayors or presidents – s. 5.98 (5)**

- 33.** (1) For the purposes of section 5.98 (5) –
- (a) The minimum annual local government allowance for the mayor or president is \$500; and
  - (b) The maximum annual local government allowance for a mayor or president is –
    - (i) \$10,000 or
    - (ii) 0.002 of the local government’s operating revenue, whichever is the greater amount, but in any case no more than \$60,000.
- (2) In this regulation –

“**operating revenue**” has the meaning that it has in the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*.

- 33A.** For the purposes of section 5.98A(1) the prescribed percentage is 25%.

## **Annual attendance fees – s.5.99**

- 34.** (1) For the purpose of section 5.99 –
- (a) The minimum annual fee for a council member other than –
    - (i) the mayor or president; or
    - (ii) in the case of a regional local government, the chairman, attending meetings (whether of the council or of any committee) is \$2,000; and
  - (b) the maximum annual fee for a council member other than –
    - (i) the mayor or president; or
    - (ii) in the case of a regional local government, the chairman, attending meetings (whether of the council or of any committee) is \$6,000.
- (2) For the purpose of section 5.99 –
- (a) the minimum annual fee –
    - (i) for the mayor or president; or
    - (ii) in the case of a regional local government, for the chairman, attending meetings (whether of the council or of any committee) is \$6,000; and
  - (b) the maximum annual fee –
    - (i) for the mayor or president; or
    - (ii) in the case of a regional local government, for the chairman, attending meetings (whether of the council or of any committee) is \$12,000.

## **Allowances in lieu of reimbursement of telecommunications expenses s. - 5.99A**

- 34A.** For the purposes of section 5.99A(b), the maximum total annual allowances for telephone and facsimile machine rental charges referred to in regulation 31(1)(a) and any other telecommunications expenses that might otherwise have been approved for reimbursement under regulation 32 is \$2,000.

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