

COUNCILLOR ALLOWANCES

INFORMATION SHEET
October 16

This information sheet explains the process for setting of councillor allowances. Allowances for mayors, deputy mayors and councillors are adjusted annually by an inflationary factor. Information is provided on the allowances payable from 1 November 2016.

Legislative basis

Section 340A of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) entitles councillors to allowances as prescribed in regulations. Mayors and deputy mayors are entitled to allowances in addition to those payable to them as councillors.

Regulation 42(2) of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2015* (the Regulations) specifies the allowances payable to councillors and mayors and deputy mayors following the last review in 2008. The allowances payable from 1 November 2014 are set out in Schedule 4 of the Regulations.

Regulation 42(2) establishes an indexation process so that allowances are adjusted from 1 November each year by multiplying the allowances for the previous year by the inflationary factor for the current year

Indexation

The Wage Price Index (WPI) figure is interpreted in the Regulations as being derived from the Labour Price Index, Australia: WPI All Groups [Sectors] Tasmania published by the Australian Statistician under the authority of the *Commonwealth Census and Statistics Act 1905*.

This information can be found on the [Australian Bureau of Statistics website](#).

The ABS Wage Price Index, Australia (catalogue 6345.0) shows the relevant WPI for the 12 months ending June 2016 to be 2.2%.

The Regulations provide for the product of this equation to be rounded to the nearest whole dollar.

The accompanying table shows the allowances payable from 1 November 2016.

Payment

Regulation 42(3) requires the annual allowance to be paid in monthly or fortnightly instalments.

Section 340A(2A) of the Act requires that allowances be paid in arrears.

Foregoing Allowance

Section 340A(3) of the Act enables a councillor, mayor or deputy mayor to decide not to receive part or all of an allowance. Where this prerogative is exercised, the General Manager is to be notified in writing. As the allowances are annual allowances payable monthly or fortnightly in arrears, any such notification is not revokable retrospectively.

Councillor Expenses

Regulation 43 enables councillors to be reimbursed for reasonable expenses in relation to telephone and internet usage, travelling, stationary and office supplies, and 'the care of any person who is dependent on the councillor and who requires the care while the councillor is carrying out his or her duties or functions as a councillor', in accordance with the council's policy under Schedule 5 of the Act.

Reporting

Section 72(1)(cb) of the Act requires each council to include in its annual report a statement of the total allowances and expenses paid to the mayor, deputy mayor and councillors.

Indexed allowances payable to elected members from 1 November 2016

Council	Allowance for Councillors	Additional allowance for Deputy Mayors	Additional allowance for Mayors
Hobart City	34750	22443	86877
Launceston City	34750	22443	86877
Clarence City	28133	19548	70329
Glenorchy City	28133	19548	70329
Kingborough	28133	19548	70329
Burnie City	21305	16652	53264
Central Coast	21305	16652	53264
Devonport City	21305	16652	53264
West Tamar	21305	16652	53264
Brighton	14480	13754	36198
Huon Valley	14480	13754	36198
Meander Valley	14480	13754	36198
Northern Midlands	14480	13754	36198
Sorell	14480	13754	36198
Waratah-Wynyard	14480	13754	36198
Break O'Day	12102	11584	30256
Circular Head	12102	11584	30256
Derwent Valley	12102	11584	30256
Dorset	12102	11584	30256
George Town	12102	11584	30256
Latrobe	12102	11584	30256
Glamorgan-Spring Bay	10192	10136	25479
Kentish	10192	10136	25479
Southern Midlands	10192	10136	25479
West Coast	10192	10136	25479
Central Highlands	8918	9412	22293
Flinders	8918	9412	22293
King Island	8918	9412	22293
Tasman	8918	9412	22293

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