

COUNCILLOR ALLOWANCES

INFORMATION SHEET
October 17

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 2017.

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 June quarter 2017 to be 126.1 and for the June quarter 2016 to be 123.5. The inflationary factor is therefore 2.11%.

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 2017.

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 2017

Council	Allowance for Councillors	Additional allowance for Deputy Mayors	Additional allowance for Mayors
Hobart City	\$35,482	\$22,915	\$88,706
Launceston City	\$35,482	\$22,915	\$88,706
Clarence City	\$28,725	\$19,960	\$71,810
Glenorchy City	\$28,725	\$19,960	\$71,810
Kingborough	\$28,725	\$19,960	\$71,810
Burnie City	\$21,754	\$17,002	\$54,385
Central Coast	\$21,754	\$17,002	\$54,385
Devonport City	\$21,754	\$17,002	\$54,385
West Tamar	\$21,754	\$17,002	\$54,385
Brighton	\$14,785	\$14,044	\$36,960
Huon Valley	\$14,785	\$14,044	\$36,960
Meander Valley	\$14,785	\$14,044	\$36,960
Northern Midlands	\$14,785	\$14,044	\$36,960
Sorell	\$14,785	\$14,044	\$36,960
Waratah-Wynyard	\$14,785	\$14,044	\$36,960
Break O'Day	\$12,357	\$11,828	\$30,893
Circular Head	\$12,357	\$11,828	\$30,893
Derwent Valley	\$12,357	\$11,828	\$30,893
Dorset	\$12,357	\$11,828	\$30,893
George Town	\$12,357	\$11,828	\$30,893
Latrobe	\$12,357	\$11,828	\$30,893
Glamorgan-Spring Bay	\$10,406	\$10,349	\$26,015
Kentish	\$10,406	\$10,349	\$26,015
Southern Midlands	\$10,406	\$10,349	\$26,015
West Coast	\$10,406	\$10,349	\$26,015
Central Highlands	\$9,106	\$9,610	\$22,762
Flinders	\$9,106	\$9,610	\$22,762
King Island	\$9,106	\$9,610	\$22,762
Tasman	\$9,106	\$9,610	\$22,762

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