Councillor Allowances

Information Sheet
October 2025

This information sheet explains the process for adjusting allowances for councillors, mayors and deputy mayors annually by an inflationary factor. This information has been updated for the allowances payable from 1 November 2025.

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.

Schedule 4 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2025* (the Regulations) specifies the allowances payable to councillors, mayors, and deputy mayors. Regulation 49(3) entitles deputy mayors to receive the allowance payable to the mayor when they act in the role for four consecutive weeks or more.

The allowances payable from June 2025 are set out in Schedule 4 of the Regulations.

Indexation

Regulation 49(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.

The inflationary factor is calculated using the ABS's Wage Price Index (WPI) for Tasmania. The Department of Treasury and Finance references this data in its WPI information sheet each quarter which can be found on Treasury's website: www.treasury.tas.gov.au/economy/economic-data/economic-data-releases-for-tasmania.

The formula for arriving at the inflationary factor is:

$$\frac{\text{Tasmanian June quarter WPI (current year)}}{\text{Tasmanian June quarter WPI (previous year)}}$$

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The table on page 3 shows the allowances payable from 1 November 2025 (noting these are rounded to the nearest whole dollar, consistent with the Regulations). Accordingly, the inflationary factor for 2025-2026 is 3.09%.

Payment

Regulation 49(4) 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 50 enables councillors to be reimbursed for reasonable expenses in relation to telephone and internet usage, travelling, stationery 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.

Recent Reforms

The remaking of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2025* in June 2025 provided an increase to the allowance for councillors of 3%, bringing the pre-existing superannuation component of allowances from 9% to 12%. This equates to the Australian Government’s 2025 Superannuation Guarantee.

The Government is also currently undertaking a technical review of councillor allowances and numbers. Any increases to councillor allowances from this review will be applied to the base allowance figures in future years.

Details on the proposed reforms can be found here.

Indexed allowances payable to elected members from 1 November 2025

Council	Allowance for councillors	Additional allowance for deputy mayors	Additional allowance for mayors
Hobart City	$46,347	$29,932	$115,869
Launceston City	$46,347	$29,932	$115,869
Clarence City	$37,522	$26,071	$93,798
Glenorchy City	$37,522	$26,071	$93,798
Kingborough	$37,522	$26,071	$93,798
Burnie City	$28,414	$22,209	$71,038
Central Coast	$28,414	$22,209	$71,038
Devonport City	$28,414	$22,209	$71,038
West Tamar	$28,414	$22,209	$71,038
Brighton	$19,312	$18,344	$48,277
Huon Valley	$19,312	$18,344	$48,277
Meander Valley	$19,312	$18,344	$48,277
Northern Midlands	$19,312	$18,344	$48,277
Sorell	$19,312	$18,344	$48,277
Waratah-Wynyard	$19,312	$18,344	$48,277
Break O'Day	$16,140	$15,449	$40,353
Circular Head	$16,140	$15,449	$40,353
Derwent Valley	$16,140	$15,449	$40,353
Dorset	$16,140	$15,449	$40,353
George Town	$16,140	$15,449	$40,353
Latrobe	$16,140	$15,449	$40,353
Glamorgan-Spring Bay	$13,592	$13,518	$33,981
Kentish	$13,592	$13,518	$33,981
Southern Midlands	$13,592	$13,518	$33,981
West Coast	$13,592	$13,518	$33,981
Central Highlands	$11,893	$12,491	$29,732
Flinders	$11,893	$12,491	$29,732
King Island	$11,893	$12,491	$29,732
Tasman	$11,893	$12,491	$29,732

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