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Subject: Councillor Numbers and Allowances
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In reference to the State Government's Discussion Paper on Reforms to Councillor Numbers and Allowances, I advise that the Kingborough Council considered this matter at its meeting of 3 November 2025, with its position on each of the reform proposals summarised in the table below:

Issue	Position	Rationale
Reduction in councillor numbers	Support	The proposed reduction of one councillor for Kingborough is not considered to have a detrimental impact on local representation and democracy.
Framework for determining councillor numbers	Support	The methodology for setting councillor numbers and allowances should be embedded in legislation, to remove ambiguity, provide certainty, and ensure fair and transparent reviews in the future.
Increase in councillor allowances	Support	The role of a councillor is becoming more complex, demanding and time consuming. Increasing allowances will assist in attracting and retaining skilled and diverse candidates.
Banding of allowances	Support	Banding enables equity across councils that share common governance characteristics. The proposed band for Kingborough is considered appropriate.
Taxation arrangements	Advocate for councillor allowances being subject to PAYG tax deductions	PAYG is standard practice for directors' fees and other officeholder payments, ensuring tax is withheld before payment. Ensures consistency with broader remuneration frameworks across

		government and corporate governance
12% superannuation contributions for councillors	Support	Mandatory contributions will align councillor remuneration with the national Superannuation Guarantee and protect long-term financial security.
Quorum guidance	Support	Providing statutory guidance will give councils clear mechanisms to manage decision-making where a quorum cannot be maintained.
Embedding the methodology for determining councillor numbers and allowances in legislation	Support	Embedding a formula ensures fairness, transparency, and regularity, removing any perception of political influence.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the reforms. Please contact me if any further information or clarity is required.

Regards,

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