



6 November 2025

Hon Kerry Vincent MLC
Minister for Local Government
Office of Local Government
email: lg.consultation@dpac.tas.gov.au

Dear Minister

REFORMS TO COUNCILLOR NUMBERS AND ALLOWANCES

Thank you for your correspondence and the Discussion Paper dated 15th September 2025, which was addressed to my Mayor regarding the above reform. We appreciate the opportunity to offer Council's feedback.

The Council conducted a workshop and subsequently engaged in additional deliberation during its Ordinary Council meeting in October.

During the workshop, the following observations and methodologies were noted by elected members:

- Population should be the key driver for Councillor numbers, with some of the other metrics being easily skewed by irrelevant factors.
- The total value of asset depreciation appeared inconsistent or unclear.
- The average total value of development applications approved over five years also lacked clarity. The quantity of development applications would be a better reflection on scale and responsibility than dollar value (or a combination of both).
- Brighton's operational efficiencies should be acknowledged. By aligning revenue so closely with the methodology, it 'punishes' councils for being efficient and having lower rates.
- Kilometres of sealed roads proved to be a challenging metric.
- Few residents choose to run for Council, which may be partly attributed to perceived organisational culture and media portrayal. There needs to be a concurrent effort from government and from the sector to 'sell' the sector's importance and relevance and thereby encourage potential candidates to put their hand up.

- A slight increase in the allowance is unlikely to sufficiently encourage more candidates for Council positions.
- Councillors are fundamentally present to represent the community; financial compensation is not the primary motivation.
- Superannuation contributions were discussed, but no definitive stance was taken. Councillors indicated that contributing to their own superannuation fund was a matter of personal choice.

We look forward to receiving the government response to sectoral feedback.

Yours sincerely,



James Dryburgh
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER