



(C12) ELECTED MEMBER FEES AND PRESIDENT'S ALLOWANCES

1. POLICY OBJECTIVE

To ensure that all Elected Members are suitably compensated and reimbursed for their contributions to the Shire of Derby/West Kimberley and its community.

2. POLICY STATEMENT

The *Local Government Act 1995* (the Act) outlines the provisions within which a local government must operate when setting elected member meeting/allowance and other fees. The Act provides that:

1. S5.98 (Fees etc. for council members) and S5.99 (Annual fee for council members in lieu of fees for attending meetings) provides for local governments to pay elected members either a meeting attendance fee (for attending each council or designated committee meeting) or alternatively, to pay an annual fee within the range for annual fees determined by that Salaries and Allowances Tribunal.
2. S5.98 (Fees etc. for council members) and S5.98A (Allowance for deputy mayor or deputy president) also provides the entitlement for the president of a local government to be paid an additional annual allowance, within the range determined by that Salaries and Allowances Tribunal, and for the deputy president to be entitled to be paid up to 25% of the president's additional entitlement.

The Council holds the view that in light of the consistent level of workload and expectation of individual elected members, that there should also be a consistent sitting fee provided to all Elected Members. In light however of the significant additional workload, and the significant financial allowance that can apply for the President, that a different approach should be taken.

President: This policy provides the ability for Council to consider a higher allowance for the President, but that consideration cannot be given until a period of at least three months has elapsed from the original election date of the President. Council can review that additional allowance at any time, but if it does not, the allowance will continue until a new President is elected. The additional fee for the Deputy President has similarly considerations.

In reviewing the President's allowance, Council will take into account a range of factors including the following:

- The leadership role taken by the President, and its effectiveness;
- The contemporary challenges of the Shire and the President's Council endorsed role in addressing those challenges;
- The number of Shire and other Council endorsed meetings requiring the attendance by the President, and the outcome benefits of those attendances;
- The ceremonial and other civic duties required of the President, and the community's appreciation of those engagements; and
- The frequency that the Deputy President is required to deputise.



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The below table reflects the policy position for sitting fees and other allowances:

Details	Councillor	President	Deputy President
Base Annual Meeting Fee Allowance (% of Salaries & Allowances Tribunal maximum)	75%*	75%*	Nil Applicable
Base President's Allowance (% of Salaries & Allowances Tribunal maximum)	Nil Applicable	50%	25% of President's Allowance
President's Allowance maximum, as confirmed by Council decision (% of Salaries & Allowances Tribunal maximum)	Nil Applicable	Up to 100% of the maximum SAT range allowance (at Council's discretion after three months)	Up to 25% of Shire President's Additional Allowance
Travelling Allowance/Motor Vehicle for President	Regulated rate	Regulated rate (or a Motor Vehicle at Council's discretion after three months).	Regulated rate

(*)Level can be reviewed by Council as part of any future policy review, or the annual budget's adoption.

ICT and Communications Allowance: The Shire will provide a suitable laptop/tablet to each Elected Member, and digital connectivity to the Telstra network. In addition, a communications allowance of \$1,500pa (to meet telephone and service provider costs) will be paid to the President and Councillors.

Elected Members and President's Travel Allowance/Motor Vehicle: All Elected Members are entitled to be reimbursed travel at the legislated rate, as is the President. For Council endorsed meetings attended by Elected Members, the Chief Executive Officer may choose (if a vehicle is available) to allocate an existing Shire vehicle for the Elected Member's use, in lieu of payment of a travel allowance.

Council may consider allocating a suitable motor vehicle to the President if the travel requirements at the legislated rate is more costly that the provision of a dedicated motor vehicle, or it otherwise considers that option to be warranted. In order to develop the necessary costing data and build up a knowledge of the expected ongoing commitments of the President, consideration of this option cannot be given until a period of at least three months has elapsed from the original election date of the President.



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Policy Details			
Original Adoption Date:	25 May 2023 (Item 10.1, Res.48/23)	Review Frequency (Annual/Bi-ennial):	Bi-ennially
		Next Review Due:	June 2025
Policy Implementing Officer or Team:	Executive Services Coordinator	Policy Reviewer:	Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Legislative Head of Power (Act, Regulation, or Local Law):	Local Government Act s5.98, s5.98A and S5.99		
Related Documents (other Policies, Operational Procedures, Delegations, etc.):	Elected Member Fees, Expenses and Allowances Register C2 Elected Member and Employee Training and Professional Development		
Version Control Council Meeting Review Details:			
Review #:	Council Meeting Date:	Item/Resolution#:	
1.	30 November 2023	Item 11.2 Res. 135/23	