



**NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA  
REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL**

*Assembly Members and Statutory Officers  
(Remuneration and Other Entitlements) Act 2006*

**DETERMINATION OF ALLOWANCES FOR MEMBERS OF  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCILS**

**DETERMINATION NO. 1 OF 2023**

Under section 7B of the *Assembly Members and Statutory Officers (Remuneration and Other Entitlements) Act 2006*, the Tribunal determines as follows:

**1. DEFINITIONS**

**Municipal Councils are the following:**

- Alice Springs;
- Darwin;
- Katherine;
- Litchfield; and
- Palmerston.

**Regional Councils are the following:**

- Barkly;
- Central Desert;
- East Arnhem;
- MacDonnell;
- Roper Gulf;
- Tiwi Islands
- West Arnhem;
- West Daly; and
- Victoria Daly.

**Community Councils are the following:**

- Belyuen.
- Coomalie; and
- Wagait.

Financial Year is the period from 1 July to the 30 June.

Councils are defined in the *Local Government Act 2019* as an area, and means the Local Council constituted for that area under section 14(b).

The role of Mayor is defined in section 58 of the *Local Government Act 2019* and is prescribed as:

- (1) The Principal Member of a municipal council is to have the title Mayor.
- (2) However:
  - (a) in the case of the council for the City of Darwin local government area – the principal member is to have the title Lord Mayor; and
  - (b) in the case of the Litchfield Council – the council may, by resolution, decide the principal member instead has the title President.
- (3) The Council may, by resolution, decide the principal member of a regional or shire council has the title Mayor or President.

Deputy Mayor is defined in the *Local Government Act 2019*.

Councillor is defined in the *Local Government Act 2019* as an elected member of a Local Council:

## 2. ALLOWANCES

The following allowances will be paid annually.

### **COUNCILLORS' ALLOWANCE**

Darwin	\$31,000
Palmerston	\$22,000
Alice Springs	\$22,000
Litchfield	\$22,000
Other Municipal and Regional	\$20,000

### **Community Councils**

Coomalie	\$7000
Belyuen	up to \$5000 as approved by Council
Wagait	up to \$5000 as approved by Council

### **DEPUTY PRINCIPAL MEMBERS ADDITIONAL ALLOWANCE**

Darwin	\$23,800
Palmerston	\$17,200
Alice Springs	\$16,500
Litchfield	\$16,000
Other Municipal and Regional	\$16,000

### **PRINCIPAL MEMBERS ADDITIONAL ALLOWANCE**

Darwin	\$127,200
Palmerston	\$92,000
Alice Springs	\$89,000
Litchfield	\$83,000
Other Municipal and Regional	\$82,000

## Community Councils

Coomalie	\$23,000
Belyuen	up to \$20,000 as approved by Council
Wagait	up to \$5000 as approved by Council

### 3. INCLUSIONS OF ALL ALLOWANCES

The Allowances are to cover:

- any cost to Councillors of attending meetings and activities of Council where these costs are not reimbursed by Council;
- contribution towards phone and internet usage;
- contribution towards any home office and supplies;
- allowance towards costs incurred in servicing constituents in Ward or Council Area:
  - Including, but not limited to:
    - donations;
    - organization sponsorship;
    - membership fees;
    - patron expenses; and
    - constituent support.

### 4. EXTRA MEETING / ACTIVITY ALLOWANCE

4.1. An Extra Meeting / Activity Allowance of up to \$10,000 per financial year, may be accessed by all Municipal and Regional Councillors and Deputy Principal Members of those Councils. The allowance may be accessed as follows:

- additional meetings of full Council or established sub-committees of Council;
- attendance at Local Authority Meetings within the Ward the member represents;
- attendance at any functions representing the Principal Member on official Council duties;
- attendance at functions as an invited representative of Council and with Council's approval; and
- attendance at any approved extra meetings of Council for planning, briefing or information sessions of council meetings.

4.2. Allowances to be paid to eligible members (not including Principal Members) are:

- Fee if activity takes place during normal business hours as follows:
  - up to 2 hours \$200
  - between 2 and 4 hours \$300
  - more than 4 hours \$500
- An Extra Meeting / Activity Allowance of up to \$1000 per financial year, can be paid to Councillors of the Community Councils, when attending an extra meeting / activity approved by the Council.

## **5. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ALLOWANCE \$4000 PER YEAR**

- 5.1. Professional Development Allowance is \$4000 per person, per financial year and will be paid to all Principal Members, Deputy Principal Members, Councillors of Municipal and Regional Councils.
- 5.2. Professional Development Allowance up to \$1000 per financial year, may be claimed by all Principal Members and Councillors of Community Councils if approved by the Council.
- 5.3. Any course or professional development activity must be specifically related to the role of the Councillor and be approved by the Council. The AICD Company's Director Course should be encouraged, as well as professional development activity that is arranged by the Local Government Association of Northern Territory (LGANT).
- 5.4. Total amount claimable each year is the total of two years, being based on an annual allowance, plus one year drawn in advance or one year's remaining balance from a previous year. The maximum amount claimable by any Councillor is the total sum of one year for each year of the Councillor's elected term.
- 5.5. Proof of completion for each stage of the course is required before further payments can be claimed.

## **6. VEHICLE ALLOWANCE**

- 6.1. Vehicle Allowance will be available for travel undertaken by all Councillors when the travel involves 50kms from home base, and is capped at \$5000 per financial year, travel does not occur in a Council supplied and maintained vehicle, and the Councillor is not in receipt of a motor vehicle provisions in Clause 7 below.
- 6.2. Vehicle Allowance will be in the form of kilometre allowance which will be paid at rates set by the Australian Taxation Office each year and is 78 cents a kilometre in 2022-23.
- 6.3. Vehicle Allowance will be available in the following circumstances:
  - travel to and from statutory Council meetings;
  - travel to and from official Council approved meeting;
  - travel to and from approved function representing the Principal Member;
  - travel to and from Local Authority Meetings;
  - travel to and from all meetings of Council or their sub-committees; and
  - travel to and from any additional activity where Extra Meeting/Activity Allowance has been approved.

## **7. PROVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLE**

- 7.1. If Principal Members of Municipal and Regional Councils are not given a Council maintained vehicle they can receive a Vehicle Allowance.
- 7.2. The Vehicle Allowance, which will be paid fortnightly or monthly, will be:
  - \$25,000 per year for Municipal Principal Members; or
  - \$40,000 per year for Regional Principal Members.

## 8. TRAVEL ALLOWANCE

Principal Members, Deputy Principal Members and Councillors who are required to stay away from home overnight on approved Council business, will be entitled to Travel Allowance.

The applicable rates to be paid are found in Table 1 of Taxation Determination TD 2021/6 or any subsequent Taxation Determination made in substitution of that Determination.

## 9. GENERAL

9.1. Pursuant to section 7B(7) of the *Assembly Members and Statutory Officers (Remuneration and Other Entitlements) Act 2006*, the allowances determined are effective from either:

- the next financial year if the report is made on or before 1 February; or
- from the financial year after the next financial year if the report is made after 1 February.



Mr Michael Martin OAM  
Chairperson  
Remuneration Tribunal

The Hon Syd Stirling AM  
Member  
Remuneration Tribunal



Mr Gary Higgins  
Member  
Remuneration Tribunal

Dated 24 January 2023