



COUNCIL MEMBER FEES AND PRESIDENT'S ALLOWANCES POLICY

1. POLICY OBJECTIVE

To ensure that all Council 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 Council 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 (SAT).
2. S5.98 (Fees etc. for Council Members) and S5.98A (Allowance for 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 SAT) 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 Council Members, that a meeting attendance fee will be paid in accordance with S5.98(1) of the Act.

President: This policy provides that the President will be paid the minimum allowance as established by the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal Annual Determination.

Council reserves the right 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 minimum allowance will continue until a new President is elected. The additional fee for the Deputy President has similar considerations.

In reviewing the President's allowance, Council will consider 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	Council Member	President	Deputy President
Base Annual Meeting Fee Allowance (% of Salaries & Allowances Tribunal maximum)	*Minimum as prescribed by SAT	*Minimum as prescribed by SAT	*Minimum as prescribed by SAT
Base President's Allowance (% of Salaries & Allowances Tribunal maximum)	Nil Applicable	Minimum as prescribed by SAT	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 Council Member, and digital connectivity to the Telstra network. In addition, a communications allowance of \$500.00 (to meet telephone and service provider costs) will be paid to the President and Council Members.

Council Members and President's Travel Allowance/Motor Vehicle: All Council Members are entitled to be reimbursed travel at the legislated rate, as is the President. For Council endorsed meetings attended by Council Members, the Chief Executive Officer may choose (if a vehicle is available) to allocate an existing Shire vehicle for the Council 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 costlier than 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	2 years
		Next Review Due:	November 2027
Policy Implementing Officer or Team:	Governance	Policy Reviewer:	Director Corporate Services
Legislative Head of Power (Act, Regulation, or Local Law):	<i>Local Government Act 1995</i> s5.98, s5.98A and S5.99		
Related Documents (other Policies, Operational Procedures, Delegations, etc.):	Council Member Fees, Expenses and Allowances Register Council Member and Employee Training and Professional Development Policy		
Version Control Council Meeting Review Details:			
Review #:	Council Meeting Date:	Item/Resolution#:	
1.	30 November 2023	Item 11.2 Res. 135/23	
2.	18 June 2025	Item 12.4 Res. CC042/24, Synergy # N23461	
3.	27 November 2025	Item 14.1 Res. 46/25	