



**NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA
REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL**

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

**DETERMINATION OF ALLOWANCES FOR MEMBERS OF
LOCAL AUTHORITIES**

REPORT ON DETERMINATION NO. 1 OF 2023

1. INTRODUCTION

As a result of amendments to the *Local Government Act 2006* and the *Assembly Members and Statutory Officers (Remuneration and Other Entitlements) Act 2006* (AMSORE Act), on 29 June 2022, the Administrator of the Northern Territory, Her Honour the Honourable Vicki O'Halloran AO CVO, issued a request to the Remuneration Tribunal to inquire into and determine the allowance or allowances payable to a member of a local authority pursuant to section 7E(1) of the AMSORE Act.

The resulting Report and Determination must be tabled in the Legislative Assembly within six sitting days of receipt by the Minister.

Under section 7E(9) of the AMSORE Act, 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.

Emails were sent to all Local Government Councils in July 2022 advising them of the Inquiry. The Remuneration Tribunal discussed this Inquiry during meetings with Local Government Councils.

2. CURRENT SITUATION

There are Local Authorities within nine Regional Councils and the number of Local Authorities in these Councils range from three to thirteen. The current allowance for members to attend meetings is just over \$100 and \$140 for the Chair of a Local Authority. Many Regional Councils advised that the Local Authorities are under resourced.

The Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet's Local Government Division is currently conducting a review of Local Authorities and confirmed that they would remain an important aspect of Local Government in Regional Councils.

3. IMPORTANCE OF AN ADEQUATE ALLOWANCE

It is important that Local Authorities are viewed as a critical function of Councils by the residents of Regional Councils and that the allowances paid are commensurate with payments for attending similar meetings within the community. Therefore, the Remuneration Tribunal believes that the current level of allowance is inadequate and has established the following allowances.

The Chair of a Local Authority will be paid as follows:

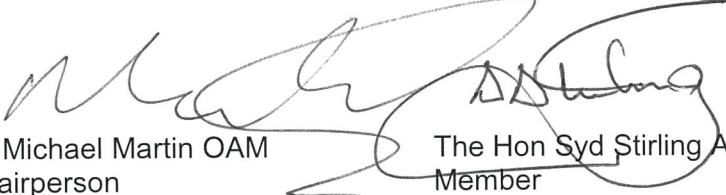
- If the meeting is held up to 2 hours \$300
- If the meeting is held between 2 to 4 hours \$450
- If the meeting is held for more than 4 hours \$600

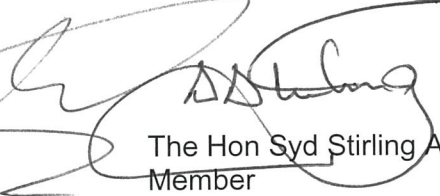
A Member of a Local Authority will be paid as follows:

- If the meeting is held up to 2 hours \$200
- If the meeting is held between 2 to 4 hours \$300
- If the meeting is held for more than 4 hours \$400

4. APPENDIX A

Appendix A provides a comparison between existing and new allowances.


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

APPENDIX A to the Report on Allowances for Members of Local Authorities

Comparison of Existing Allowances with New Allowances

Local Government Authorities

POSITION	Period	CURRENT	NEW
Chair	Up to 2 hours	\$140	\$300
	2 to 4 hours	\$140	\$450
	More than 4 hours	\$140	\$600
Member	Up to 2 hours	\$110	\$200
	2 to 4 hours	\$110	\$300
	More than 4 hours	\$110	\$400



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DETERMINATION NO. 1 OF 2023

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

1. DEFINITIONS

Local Authority is defined in the *Local Government Act 2019* as established by a Council under section 76.

The Chair of a Local Authority is defined in the *Local Government Act 2019* as in section 98.

A Member of a Local Authority is defined in the *Local Government Act 2019* as a member of an audit committee, a council, a council committee of a local authority.

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

2. ALLOWANCES

The following allowance will be paid for each meeting of a Local Authority.

The Chair of a Local Authority will be paid as follows:

If the meeting is held up to 2 hours	\$300
If the meeting is held between 2 to 4 hours	\$450
If the meeting is held for more than 4 hours	\$600

A Member of a Local Authority will be paid as follows:

If the meeting is held up to 2 hours	\$200
If the meeting is held between 2 to 4 hours	\$300
If the meeting is held for more than 4 hours	\$400

3. GENERAL

- a. Pursuant to section 7E(9) 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



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Dated 24 January 2023