

Councillor Allowances

Information Sheet – September 2026

This information sheet explains the process for the setting and annual adjustment of allowances for councillors, mayors, and deputy mayors, and sets out the allowances payable from 1 November 2026.

Legislative Basis

Section 28JAA of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) entitles councillors to allowances as prescribed in regulations. Mayors and deputy mayors are entitled to allowances in addition to those payable to them as councillors.

Schedule 4 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2025* (the Regulations) specifies the allowance bands and corresponding base allowance figure for councillors, mayors, and deputy mayors. Councils specific allowance bands are set out in Schedule 3 of the Act.

Regulation 49(3) entitles deputy mayors to receive the allowance payable to the mayor when they act in the role for four consecutive weeks or more.

Indexation

Regulation 49(2) establishes an indexation process so that allowances are adjusted from 1 November each year by multiplying the allowances for the previous year by the inflationary factor for the current year.

The inflationary factor is calculated using the Australian Bureau of Statistics' Wage Price Index (WPI) for Tasmania. The Department of Treasury and Finance references this data in its WPI information sheet each quarter, which can be found on the Treasury' website.

The formula for arriving at the inflationary factor is:

$$\frac{\text{Tasmanian June quarter WPI (current year)}}{\text{Tasmanian June quarter WPI (previous year)}}$$

The inflationary factor for 2026-2027 is **2.93%**.

Payment

Regulation 49(4) requires the annual allowance to be paid in monthly or fortnightly instalments. Section 28JAA(4) of the Act requires that allowances are paid in arrears.

Foregoing Allowance

Section 28JAA(5) of the Act enables a councillor, mayor, or deputy mayor to decide not to receive part or all an allowance. Where this prerogative is exercised, the General Manager is to be notified in writing. As the allowances are annual allowances payable monthly or fortnightly in arrears, any such notification is not revokable retrospectively.

Councillor Expenses

Regulation 50 enables councillors to be reimbursed for reasonable expenses in relation to telephone and internet usage, travelling, stationery and office supplies, and 'the care of any person who is dependent on the councillor and who requires the care while the councillor is carrying out his or her duties or functions as a councillor', in accordance with the council's policy under Schedule 5 of the Act.

Reporting

Section 72(1)(cb) of the Act requires each council to include in its annual report a statement of the total allowances and expenses paid to the mayor, deputy mayor and councillors.

Recent Reforms

The remaking of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2025* in June 2025 provided an increase to the allowance for councillors of 3%, bringing the existing 'superannuation equivalent' component of allowances from 9% to 12%, in line with the Australian Government's 2025 Superannuation Guarantee.

On 1 September 2026 provisions under the *Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Act 2026* commenced which delivered changes to the allowances framework. This includes a new statutory methodology for determining councils' allocation to allowance bands (and councillor numbers categories) and a 14.25% increase to the base allowance for all bands, payable to councillors from 1 November 2026 (subject to indexation).

Under section 28JAB of the Act, the Minister undertakes a review, in accordance with the methodology, every four years, within the period commencing 12 months before, and ending 6 months before, the date of ordinary council elections. These reviews will determine any changes to council allowance bands, which will be given effect by order of the Governor.

Indexed allowances payable from 1 November 2026

Council	Allowance band	Allowance for councillors (\$)	Additional allowance for deputy mayors (\$)	Additional allowance for mayors (\$)
Break O'Day	2.2	22710	18871	49692
Brighton	2.2	22710	18871	49692
Burnie City	2.1	33414	22860	73119
Central Coast	2.1	33414	22860	73119
Central Highlands	2.4	15984	13914	34977
Circular Head	2.2	22710	18871	49692
Clarence City	1.1	54502	30809	119264
Derwent Valley	2.2	22710	18871	49692
Devonport City	2.1	33414	22860	73119
Dorset	2.3	18980	15902	41535
Flinders	2.4	15984	13914	34977
George Town	2.3	18980	15902	41535
Glamorgan-Spring Bay	2.3	18980	15902	41535
Glenorchy City	1.2	44125	26835	96546
Hobart City	1.1	54502	30809	119264
Huon Valley	2.2	22710	18871	49692
Kentish	2.3	18980	15902	41535
King Island	2.4	15984	13914	34977
Kingborough	1.2	44125	26835	96546
Latrobe	2.2	22710	18871	49692
Launceston City	1.1	54502	30809	119264
Meander Valley	2.2	22710	18871	49692

Council	Allowance band	Allowance for councillors (\$)	Additional allowance for deputy mayors (\$)	Additional allowance for mayors (\$)
Northern Midlands	2.2	22710	18871	49692
Sorell	2.2	22710	18871	49692
Southern Midlands	2.3	18980	15902	41535
Tasman	2.4	15984	13914	34977
Waratah-Wynyard	2.2	22710	18871	49692
West Coast	2.4	15984	13914	34977
West Tamar	2.1	33414	22860	73119

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