



Report 00.617
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15 August 2000

Report to Policy & Finance Committee
From: Ted Maguire, Council Secretary

Elected Members' Remuneration - New Ministerial Determination

1. **Purpose**

To seek consider an adjustment to the remuneration payable to elected members in light of the recent ministerial announcement.

2. **Background and Comment**

2.1 **Introduction**

Councillors are remunerated by way of annual salaries and daily meeting attendances within parameters defined by Ministerial Determination.

At *Local Government New Zealand's* Annual Conference in Christchurch, the Minister of Local Government announced a 2.5% rise for salaries and meeting allowances, backdated to 18 January 2000. The new Determination prescribes -maximum and minimum annual salaries for meetings and also daily meeting allowance rates.

A copy of the new Determination is enclosed at **Attachment 1**.

In summary, the new Determination groups Regional Councils on a population basis as follows:

300,001+
150,001 -300,000
75,001-150,000
up to 75,000

The WRC comes into the first group - Wellington Region having a population of some 429,000.

2.2 Job Evaluation

Actual rates payable to WRC members have traditionally been based on a job evaluation and linked to market rates. This Council's use of those processes has produced a satisfactory and objective result. A copy of the letter from Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu advising of the result of the job evaluation process is at **Attachment 2**.

The table below sets out councillors' salaries based on the current Ministerial Determination and the Deloitte's Job Evaluation formula.

	N e w Determination Maximum \$	Job Evaluation Maximum Salary \$	Current Salary Rate \$
Council Chairman	96,680 *(92,680)	104,700	*90,320
Deputy Council Chairman	32,620	36,500	31,820
Committee Chairpersons			
- Regional Transport	32,620	40,700	31,820
- Environment	32,620	42,800	31,820
- Utility Services	32,620	36,200	
- Rural Services and Wairarapa	32,620	35,600	31,820
- Landcare	32,620	34,000	30,600
Other Members	16,310	20,400	15,910
Attendance Allowance	190		185

* Adjusted for the use of a car, valued at \$4,000 per annum.

As the job evaluation maximum is above the current salary rate paid to all Councillors, a salary adjustment up to the statutory maximum could be considered.

The Council has traditionally paid the maximum rate for daily meeting attendance allowance and all councillors (other than the Council Chairperson) would receive a new higher rate. Daily allowances are also paid to many committee appointees.

3. Recommendation

That Council considers applying the amended rates of remuneration to elected members.



TED MAGUIRE
Council Secretary



4. **Chairman's Recommendation**

- (1) *That Council adopt the new maximum salaries and meeting attendance allowance levels for the Deputy Chairperson, Chairpersons of committees and Councillors **from** 18 January 2000.*
- (2) *That I vacate the chair for the discussion of the Chairman's salary.*



STUART MACASKILL
Chairman

**Attachment 1 – Local Government (Local Authorities Salaries and Allowances)
Determination 2000**

Attachment 2 - Letter from Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu

