

Report 13.1031
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Committee Council
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Review of remuneration of appointed members

1. Purpose

To provide Council with a review of remuneration paid to persons appointed to the Council's committees and advisory groups.

2. Background

The current remuneration arrangements for appointed members to the Council's committees and advisory groups were set some ten years ago. They provide for a daily meeting fee of \$195 per day and a mileage allowance set at the same maximum rate payable to Councillors, and for the reimbursement of relevant parking and public transport costs. The daily meeting fee was set on the basis of the daily meeting fee that was then payable to Councillors.

These remuneration arrangements apply currently to all non-local government appointees on the Council's committees and subcommittees, except for appointees to Te Upoko Taiao – Natural Resource Management Committee and the Wellington Regional Strategy Committee for which different arrangements have been set by Council. These remuneration arrangements also apply currently to the non-local government members of the advisory groups established by the Council – the Accessibility Reference Group and the Farming Reference Group.

During the 2010-2013 triennium there were 22 appointed positions subject to these remuneration arrangements.

The current remuneration arrangements were last subject to a review by Council in 2009. There was no change to the remuneration rate as an outcome of that review.

3. Comment

3.1 Proposed changes to remuneration of appointed members

To provide for a remuneration regime that fairly reflects the time commitment required of an appointed member to the Council's committees and advisory groups, it is proposed that the \$195 daily meeting fee be increased to \$235. In addition to this daily meeting fee, it is proposed that appointed members will continue to be eligible for a mileage allowance set at the same maximum rate payable to Councillors, and for the reimbursement of relevant parking and public transport costs.

The proposed new meeting fee is the same as that paid to appointees to the committees and advisory bodies of Auckland Council. Also, by way of comparison with the daily meeting fee payable to similar bodies in the state sector, this rate falls in the middle of the range for the category of "advisory committees, technical review committees and professional regulatory bodies" (Cabinet Circular CO (12) 6 refers).

4. Financial considerations

The cost of this proposed increase in meeting fee will be met from current budgets.

5. Communication

The committee and advisory body appointees will be informed of the Council's decision.

6. The decision-making process and significance

The matter requiring decision in this report has been considered by officers against the requirements of Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2002.

6.1 Significance of the decision

Officers have considered the significance of the matter, taking into account the Council's significance policy and decision-making guidelines. Due to the procedural nature of this decision officers recommend that the matter be considered to have low significance.

Officers do not consider that a formal record outlining consideration of the decision-making process is required in this instance.

7. Recommendations

That the Council:

1. *Receives the report.*
2. *Notes the content of the report.*
3. *Approves a daily fee of \$235 for each appointed member's attendance at committee or advisory group meetings and workshops, for which they are not otherwise being remunerated.*

4. ***Confirms** that appointed members are eligible for a mileage allowance set at the same maximum rate payable to Councillors for the use of their own personal vehicle in attending meetings and workshops, and for the reimbursement of relevant parking and public transport costs when such costs are not being otherwise being reimbursed.*

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