

Report 16.156
Date 13 April 2016
File CCAB-8-521

Committee Council
Author Cr Chris Laidlaw, Council Chair

Elected member remuneration 2016/17

1. Purpose

For the Council to resolve its proposal for the allocation of the remuneration pool for positions of additional responsibility to apply to the Council for 2016/17.

2. Background

The Remuneration Authority (the Authority) has advised the Council of its approach to elected member remuneration for 2016/17.

The Authority continues to determine the Chair's salary and the base salary to apply to Councillors. As a larger metropolitan area, the Authority has applied a 1.5% increase to these positions. The salaries are detailed below:

Position	2015/2016 remuneration	2016/2017 remuneration
Chair	\$161,450	\$163,872
Councillor	\$61,700	\$62,626

The Authority also allocates to each council a pool of funds available to provide additional payment to Councillors appointed to positions of additional responsibility (including the Deputy Chair, committee chairs and portfolio leaders).

The pool for positions of additional responsibility has been increased from the equivalent of 150 percent of one base Councillor salary to 200 percent of one base Councillor salary; for Greater Wellington Regional Council this equates to \$125,252 for 2016/17. There is no requirement for a council to develop a proposal which provides for the full allocation of the pool.

The Authority advises that it has also removed the following remuneration caps:

- additional remuneration for a deputy mayor or chair to not exceed 40% of the base councillor salary
- additional remuneration for committee chairpersons or portfolio leaders or other councillor positions of additional responsibility not to exceed 25% of the base councillor salary.

The Authority has asked councils to advise it by 16 May 2016 of their proposals for the allocation of the pool available for positions of additional responsibility.

3. **Comment**

I propose that each position of additional responsibility should receive a 1.5% increase, consistent with the increase determined by the Authority for the Council Chair and Councillors without additional responsibilities. The effect of this increase is set out in the table below.

Position	Number in position	2015/16 salary	Additional remuneration	Total 2016/17 salary
Deputy Chair / Committee Chair	1	\$86,380	\$1,296	\$87,676
Committee Chair	2	\$77,125	\$1,157	\$78,282
Portfolio Leader	2	\$77,125	\$1,157	\$78,282
Chair, Hutt Valley Flood Management Subcommittee	1	\$67,005	\$1,005	\$68,010

This proposal allocates \$93,058 (75%) of the available pool.

The Council elected in October 2016 will determine the governance structure to apply for the 2016-19 triennium and may submit a new proposal to the Authority.

4. **Communication**

The Council's decision will be communicated to the Authority.

5. **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.

5.1 Significance of the decision

Officers have considered the significance of the matter, taking into account the Council's significance and engagement 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.

5.2 Engagement

Due to its procedural nature and low significance, no engagement on this matter has been undertaken.

6. Recommendations

That the Council:

1. ***Receives the report.***
2. ***Notes the content of the report.***
3. ***Resolves that the pool available for positions of additional responsibility should be allocated as set out in section 3 of this report.***

Report prepared by:

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Council Chair