

ITEM 11 LOCAL GOVERNMENT REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL - ANNUAL FEES PAYABLE TO LORD MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS 1 JULY 2025 TO 30 JUNE 2026

The Local Government Remuneration Tribunal has made determinations under Section 241 of the *Local Government Act 1993* in respect of the annual fees payable to the Lord Mayor and Councillors effective from 1 July 2025.

RECOMMENDATION

The annual fees payable for the period 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026 be:

- 1 \$36,690 for each Councillor including the Lord Mayor, and
- 2 \$114,300 additional fee for the Lord Mayor.

REPORT AUTHORISATIONS

Report of: Todd Hopwood, Manager Customer + Business Integrity
 Authorised by: Renee Campbell, Director Corporate Services - Connected + Engaged City

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report

ACRONYMS USED IN REPORT

Abbreviation	Meaning
Act	Local Government Act 1993
Tribunal	Local Government Remuneration Tribunal

BACKGROUND

The *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) provides for the establishment of a Local Government Remuneration Tribunal (Tribunal) to determine categories for councils, together with annual fees payable to Mayors and Councillors. The Tribunal, in accordance with Section 241 of the Act, must determine no later than 1 May each year the minimum/maximum fees payable for Councillors and Mayors for each category.

Council is required under the Act to determine the fee to be paid to the Lord Mayor and Councillors. Section 248 of the Act stipulates that a council must pay each Councillor an annual fee in accordance with the Tribunal's determinations, the annual fee is to be the same for each Councillor and Council is able to pay that fee having regard to the category established by the Tribunal.

Council may fix a fee that is equal to or greater than the minimum but not greater than the maximum for the appropriate category. When a council declines to fix a fee, it must pay the appropriate minimum fees as determined by the Tribunal.

Wollongong City Council is categorised as 'Major Regional City'.

PROPOSAL

The Tribunal has determined a 3% increase to the fees applicable for each category from 1 July 2025. This report recommends, pursuant to s241 of the Act, the annual fees to be paid to Councillors and Lord Mayor, effective from 1 July 2025 are to be as follows:

Category: Major Regional City	Fee
Councillor fee	\$36,690
Lord Mayoral Fee	\$114,300

PLANNING AND POLICY IMPACT

This report contributes to the delivery of Our Wollongong 2032 Goal 4 – ‘We are a connected and engaged community’. It specifically delivers on the following:

Community Strategic Plan 2032		Delivery Program 2022-2026
Strategy		Service
4.7	Demonstrate responsible decision-making based on our values, collaboration, and transparent and accountable leadership	Governance and Administration

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are sufficient funds in the 2025/26 budget to meet the increase as determined by the Tribunal.

CONCLUSION

The Tribunal has determined the minimum and maximum fees applicable for the purposes of remuneration of local government elected representatives. It is recommended Council adopt the proposed fees from 1 July 2025 as outlined in this report.