

## 10.6. 2024/25 Determination of the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal

<b>AUTHOR</b>	Ian Curry, Manager Governance
<b>ENDORSED BY</b>	Luke Harvey, Director Corporate Services
<b>ATTACHMENTS</b>	Nil
<b>CSP LINK</b>	5. Our Civic Leadership 5.2 Strong civic leadership and customer focussed services

### PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal determination for 2024/25, and for Council to determine to fix and pay an annual fee to Councillors and the Mayor from 1 July 2024, in accordance with the Tribunal's determination.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

- The Local Government Remuneration Tribunal has determined an increase of 3.75% to mayoral and councillor fees for the 2024/25 financial year, with effect from 1 July 2024.
- The Tribunal is required to determine the remuneration categories of councils and mayoral offices at least once every three years, under section 239 of the Local Government Act 1993 (the Act). The Tribunal last undertook a significant review of the categories as part of its 2023 determination and will next review these categories in 2026.
- The Local Government Act 1993 requires councils to fix and pay an annual fee to councillors and mayors from 1 July 2024 based on the Tribunal's determination for the 2024/25 financial year.

### RECOMMENDATION:

**1. THAT** Council fix the annual councillors' fee to \$28,690 in accordance with the Metropolitan Medium Councils allowable fee determined by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal for the 2024/25 year.

**2. THAT** Council fix the annual fee Mayoral fee to \$76,190 in accordance with the Metropolitan Medium Councils allowable fee determined by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal for the 2024/25 year.

## Background

The Local Government Remuneration Tribunal is required to determine the remuneration categories of councils and mayoral offices at least once every three years, under section 239 of the Local Government Act 1993 (the Act). The Tribunal last undertook a significant review of the categories as part of its 2023 determination and will next review these categories in 2026.

The Tribunal has determined an increase of 3.75% to mayoral and councillor fees for the 2024/25 financial year, with effect from 1 July 2024.

Council has historically fixed the maximum fee as an acknowledgement that the time and effort Councillors expend on Council business cannot be fully recompensed within the fee provisions.

## Report

The level of fees paid will depend on the category the council is in, which for North Sydney Council is Metropolitan Medium.

The Tribunal determination for Member fees in Metropolitan Medium is:

Role	Minimum (24/25)	Maximum (24/25)	23/24 fee
Councillor	\$15,370	\$28,690	\$27,650
Mayor (additional fee)	\$32,650	\$76,190	\$73,440

If a council does not fix a fee by way of a resolution, the council must pay the minimum fee determined by the Tribunal.

A council cannot fix a fee higher than the maximum amount determined by the Tribunal.

The full determination report can be found [here](#).

## Consultation requirements

Community engagement is not required.

## Financial/Resource Implications

An amount of \$300,110 has been allocated in the 2024/25 draft budget for councillor fees and \$79,720 for Mayoral fees. This is sufficient to allow for Council to fix the maximum fee allowed by the Tribunal.

## **Legislation**

Sections 248 and 249 of the Local Government Act 1993 require councils to fix and pay an annual fee to councillors and mayors from 1 July 2024 based on the Tribunal's determination for the 2024/25 financial year.