



Report 09.572  
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Committee Council  
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## Review of remuneration of appointed members

### 1. Purpose

To report to Council the findings of the officers' review of remuneration paid to persons appointed to the Council's committee and advisory groups.

### 2. Significance of the decision

The matters for decision in this report **do not** trigger the significance policy of the Council or otherwise trigger section 76(3)(b) of the Local Government Act 2002.

### 3. Background

The current remuneration arrangements for appointed members were set in 2003. They provide for a taxable daily meeting fee of \$195 per day and a taxable mileage allowance of \$0.70 per kilometre, 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 currently apply to all non-local government appointees on the Council's committees and subcommittees, except for appointees to the Wellington Regional Strategy Committee and the Natural Resource Management Plan Development Committee for which different arrangements have been set by Council. They also currently apply to the non-local government members of the advisory groups established by the Council – the Ara Tahi inter-iwi representative group, the Greater Wellington Disability Reference Group and the Wairarapa Hill Country Advisory Committee.

There are currently 43 appointed positions subject to these remuneration arrangements.

### 4. Comment

While the existing arrangements were set some six years ago, they remain comparable with the payments made by other large local authorities to

committee appointees. The table below shows the daily meeting fee paid by Greater Wellington and a sample of five other local authorities:

Local authority	Daily meeting fee paid
Greater Wellington	\$195
Auckland Regional Council	\$230 (set at the same rate as the daily meeting fee currently paid to Councillors)
Canterbury Regional Council	\$100 for a meeting up to four hours in duration \$200 for a meeting over four hours in duration
Dunedin City Council	\$225
Manukau City Council	\$200
North Shore City	\$200

Officers consider that, in the current economic environment, the meeting fee of \$195 remains appropriate for the great majority of meetings, with most meetings usually less than three hours in duration. However, the current fee does not adequately compensate appointees when they are attending a meeting on any day that has an extended duration; such as an appointed member's participation in a hearing committee's full day hearing process.

To provide for a remuneration regime that fairly reflects the time commitment required of an appointed member, it is proposed that the \$195 daily meeting fee should apply to meetings with a duration of up to four hours in duration (excluding adjournments) and that a double meeting fee (\$390) should apply when a meeting exceeds four hours in duration (excluding adjournments) on a particular day.

## 5. Financial considerations

As the number of occasions over the course of a financial year for which the meeting fee of \$390 would apply would be very few in number, any additional costs incurred would be met from existing budgets.

## 6. Recommendations

*That the Council:*

1. *Receives the report.*
2. *Notes the content of the report.*

3. ***Retains*** the daily meeting fee of \$195 for meetings of up to four hours in duration, excluding adjournments.
4. ***Approves*** a daily meeting fee of \$390 for meetings of more than four hours in duration, excluding adjournments.
5. ***Confirms*** that appointed members continue to be eligible for a mileage allowance of \$0.70 per kilometre and for the reimbursement of relevant parking and public transport costs.

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