

SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL

18 MAY 2016

AGENDA ITEM C2

ELECTED MEMBERS REMUNERATION

Purpose of Report

To approve elected members remuneration.

Recommendations

Officers recommend that the Council:

1. *Receive the information.*
2. *Approve a Deputy Mayoral salary of 140% of normal councillor salary.*
3. *Approve "additional duties" payment for the councillor representative on the Ruamahanga Whaitua Committee of either 50% of the "appointed member" remuneration, or \$3,000, whichever is the greater.*
4. *The resolution in 3 above will be effective following approval from the Remuneration Authority.*

1. Executive Summary

The Remuneration Authority (the Authority) sets remuneration for elected members.

There is little discretion available to local authorities in the remuneration levels of individual elected members.

Local authorities can make additional payment to those elected members where it is deemed the workloads are significantly in excess of that required of a Councillor.

The total "pool" available amount available for these additional payments is 200% of a councillor base remuneration.

There is no cap on the additional payment to a Councillor, apart from the overall pool available of 200%

2. Discussion

Previously this council has identified the Deputy Mayor, and the Councillor representative on the Ruamahanga Whaitua Committee as the only positions attracting an "additional payment".

The Remuneration Authority had previously set a cap of 40% as being the maximum "additional payment" able to be made, accordingly this Council resolved the Deputy Mayor should receive this amount.

Council also resolved to pay an additional amount of \$2,500 the Ruamahanga Whaitua Committee representative. At the time this represented an additional 14% over the base councillor salary.

Since that resolution, the \$2,500 has inflated to \$2,700 by virtue of increases set by the Authority.

The request for an additional amount as resolved has been driven by increased workloads.

2.1 Greater Wellington Remuneration

Greater Wellington Regional Council remunerates non local authority members of the Ruamahanga Whaitua Committee at \$5,000.

This amount will no doubt be under review from time to time, and one would assume if a review was undertaken it would be based around an increase in workloads, and responsibilities.

It is useful to align councillor remuneration levels to this base amount.

3. 2016/17 Remuneration

The Authority has determined the following base remuneration levels:

| Role | 2015/16 | 2016/17 |
|------------|----------|----------|
| Mayor | \$69,000 | \$71,070 |
| Councillor | \$16,300 | \$16,789 |

The additional payments will be on top of the above amounts.

4. Expense Policy

The expenses reimbursement policy will remain unchanged from the previously adopted and does not need to be re-presented here.

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