

# Late item 8.8

## **Ordinary Meeting**

**Thursday, 28 May 2020**

**commencing at 9:00am**



---

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

ITEM	SUBJECT	PAGE NO
8	REPORTS DIRECT TO COUNCIL .....	5
8.8	COUNCILLOR REMUNERATION.....	5



**8 REPORTS DIRECT TO COUNCIL****8.8 COUNCILLOR REMUNERATION**

**File No:** Council Meetings  
**Author:** Manager Corporate Governance  
Office of the CEO

---

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to determine the remuneration for Sunshine Coast Councillors for the 2020/2021 financial year.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Chief Executive Officer has been asked by Council to prepare this report to place a hold on Councillor remuneration (including Mayor and Deputy Mayor), in accordance with section 247 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

Due to the financial burden faced by the community and on Council as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, Councillors have indicated they do not wish to accept the 2% increase decided by the Local Government Remuneration Commission and instead, would prefer to continue to be remunerated at 2019/2020 rates.

In not accepting the 2% increase, approximately \$35,487 will be saved in Councillor remuneration costs for the 2020/2021 financial year.

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council:**

- (a) receive and note the report titled “Councillor Remuneration” and
- (b) confirm the remuneration payable to the Sunshine Coast Regional Council Councillors for the 2020/2021 financial year as:
  - Mayor \$228,521
  - Deputy Mayor \$158,332
  - Councillor \$138,745.

**FINANCE AND RESOURCING**

Should this recommendation be adopted, savings of approximately \$35,487 will be achieved for the 2020/2020 financial year.

**CORPORATE PLAN**

**Corporate Plan Goal:** *An outstanding organisation*  
**Outcome:** We serve our community by providing this great service  
**Operational Activity:** S26 - Elected Council - providing community leadership, democratic representation, advocacy and decision-making.

## CONSULTATION

### Councillor Consultation

Discussions have been held with the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and all Councillors.

### Internal Consultation

Chief Executive Officer

## PROPOSAL

The Mayor and Councillors requested the Chief Executive Officer to prepare this report in accordance with section 247 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* (the Regulation).

Under the Regulation, the Local Government Remuneration Commission (the Commission) must determine the maximum remuneration payable to local government elected representatives from 1 July each year. Local governments must pay remuneration to its Councillors (including mayors and deputy mayors) in accordance with the remuneration schedule unless the local government resolves otherwise before 1 July in the relevant year.

In its 2019 Annual Report, the Commission determined a 2% increase in Councillor remuneration across Queensland for the financial year commencing 1 July 2020 (refer Table 1).

*Table 1 – Local Government Remuneration Commission Remuneration Schedule – Sunshine Coast Regional Council*

	2019/2020 Remuneration	2020/2021 Remuneration
Mayor	\$228,521	\$233,091
Deputy Mayor	\$158,332	\$161,499
Councillor	\$138,745	\$141,520

In light of the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on Council and on the community, Councillors have advised they do not wish to accept the proposed increase and have requested that their remuneration rates be placed on hold for the 2020/2021 financial year.

As such, Councillors (including the Mayor and Deputy Mayor) will continue to be paid the remuneration rates stipulated by the Local Government Remuneration and Discipline Tribunal (now the Local Government Remuneration Commission) in its 2019/2020 Remuneration Schedule below:

*Table 2 – Councillor remuneration commencing 1 July 2020 – Sunshine Coast Regional Council*

Mayor	\$228,521
Deputy Mayor	\$158,332
Councillor	\$138,745

## Legal

The *Local Government Regulation 2012* sets out that Local governments must pay remuneration to its Councillors (including mayors and deputy mayors) in accordance with the remuneration schedule unless the local government resolves otherwise before 1 July in the relevant year.

## Policy

There are no policy implications associated with this report.

**Risk**

No obvious risks have been identified in relation to the proposal.

**Previous Council Resolution**

There is no previous Council resolution relevant to this report.

**Related Documentation**

Local Government Remuneration and Discipline Tribunal Report 2018

Local Government Remuneration Commission Annual Report 2019

**Critical Dates**

Council resolution to remunerate Councillors at a rate lower than the 2020/2021 Remuneration Schedule is required before 1 July 2020. In the absence of such resolution the 2020/2021 remuneration schedule published in December 2019 will apply.

**Implementation**

Should the recommendation be accepted by Council, it is noted that the Chief Executive Officer will ensure no changes are made to Councillors' remuneration and that the 2019/2020 rates continue to apply.