

ELECTED MEMBER ENTITLEMENTS COUNCIL POLICY

POLICY STATEMENT

To outline the support that will be provided to Elected Members through the payment of allowances, reimbursement of expenses incurred, insurance cover and supplies provided in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1995* while performing the official duties of office.

POLICY SCOPE

This policy applies to Elected Members.

POLICY DETAILS

1. Allowances

1.1 Mayoral Allowance

[Local Government Act 1995 s.5.98(5)]

As a policy position, the Mayor shall be entitled to an annual local government allowance that is the maximum (100%) of the minimum/maximum range as determined annually by the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal. The exact quantum of the Mayoral Allowance is determined annually by Council when adopting the annual budget within the prescribed range.

1.2 Deputy Mayor Allowance

[Local Government Act 1995 s.5.98A]

The Deputy Mayor shall be entitled to an annual local government allowance equivalent to 25% of the Mayoral Allowance.

1.3 Meeting Attendance Allowance

[Local Government Act 1995 s.5.98(1)(b)]

The Mayor and Elected Members shall be entitled to an annual Meeting Attendance Allowance within the applicable band range as determined by the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal.

As a policy position, Councillors shall be entitled to an annual Meeting Attendance Allowance that is the maximum (100%) of the minimum/maximum range as determined annually by the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal.

As a policy position, the Mayor shall be entitled to an annual Meeting Attendance Allowance that is the maximum (100%) of the minimum/maximum range as determined annually by the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal.

The exact quantum of the Meeting Attendance Allowance is determined annually by Council when adopting the annual budget within the prescribed range.

1.4 ICT Expenses Allowance

[Local Government Act 1995 s.5.99A and Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996 Reg.31 and 32]

Elected Members shall be entitled to an annual Information Communication and Technology (ICT) allowance equal to the maximum amount permitted to be paid as determined by the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal to cover all information and communications technology costs that are a kind of expense for which Elected Members may be reimbursed as prescribed by Regulations 31(1)(a) and 32(1) of the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996*.

2. Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)

2.1 Electronic Device

The City of Bunbury recognises the benefits of digital communications and information sharing. The City's preferred technology for disseminating and managing Council documentation is via an online format, for which the City will provide each Elected Member appropriate IT hardware (laptop, tablet or similar) for the duration of their elected term, unless requested otherwise. At the request of individual Elected Members, hard copy material can also be made available.

Notwithstanding the end-of-useful-life purchasing arrangements detailed within this clause, the hardware will at all times remain property of the City and be subject to the City's existing ICT policies. Where possible, once the issued hardware reaches the end of its useful life as determined by the relevant asset replacement plan or the Manager Information Services, the first right of refusal regarding the purchase of the hardware at its current market value as determined by the Manager Information Services will be with the Elected Member.

The hardware provided to Elected Members will include any relevant software (including City of Bunbury email), which will facilitate Elected Members being able to access relevant information and discharge the duties of an Elected Member of Council. From time to time the City may contact Elected Members regarding upgrades or additional software applications, where Elected Members will be required to provide their device to the City for periodic updates and synchronising.

2.2 Business Cards

The City will provide each Elected Member with a quantity of 500 printed business cards for relevant City business use within each term of office. The business card format will be in accordance with the City's Style Guide.

2.3 Letterhead

An electronic letterhead template will be provided to each Elected Member for relevant City business use within each term of office.

3. Reimbursable Expenses

3.1 Travel Expenses

[Local Government Act 1995 s.5.98(2)(b) and (3) and Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996 Reg.31(1)(b) and (c)]

Elected Members shall be entitled to reimbursement of travelling expenses incurred while using their own private motor vehicle in the performance of the official duties of their office, subject to claims being related to travel to a destination from their normal place of residence or work and return in respect to the following:

- a. Council Meetings, Civic functions, Citizenship Ceremonies or briefings called by Council, the Mayor or the Chief Executive Officer.
- b. Committees to which the Councillor is appointed a delegate or deputy by Council.
- c. Meetings, training and functions scheduled by the Chief Executive Officer or Directors.
- d. Conferences, community organisations, industry groups and local government associations to which the Elected Member has been appointed by Council as its delegate or a deputy to the delegate.
- e. Functions and presentations attended in the role as an Elected Member or whilst deputising for the Mayor, that are supported by a copy of the relevant invitation or request for attendance.
- f. Gatherings or events (i.e. funerals, local business or community events), approved by the Chief Executive Officer for attendance by the Mayor or the Mayor's nominated deputy as a representative of the City.
- g. Any other occasion in the performance of an act under the express authority of Council.
- h. Site inspections in connection with matters listed on any Council Agenda paper (Members to state the Item Number listed on any Council Agenda paper along with the date and time of the visit on the claim form).
- i. In response to a request to meet with a ratepayer/elector but excluding the day of Council Elections. (Members to state the time and purpose of the visit and the name and address of the ratepayer/elector on the claim form).
- j. Completing the compulsory training for Council Members pursuant to section 5.126(1) of the *Local Government Act 1995*.

Reimbursement will be in accordance with the requirements outlined in annexure D.

3.2 Intrastate or Interstate Travel and Accommodation

[Local Government Act 1995 s.5.98(2)(a) and (3) and Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996 Reg.32(1)]

- a. The cost of accommodation for Elected Members and staff when staying on Council business either:
 - i. overnight in a hotel or motel; or
 - ii. at a place other than a hotel or motel;
 shall be reimbursed to the maximum amount stated in the Public Service Allowance Schedule I – Travelling, Transfer and Relieving Allowance (shown at Annexure C).
- b. All costs are to be fully substantiated by receipts and invoices; or if staying in accommodation other than a hotel or motel, a signed statutory declaration with certification from the owners of the premises shall be provided.
- c. All costs for breakfast, lunch, dinner and other incidental costs shall be paid in accordance with the rates stated in Annexure C.

- d. In addition to the rates contained in Annexure C, Elected Members and staff members shall be reimbursed reasonable incidental expenses such as train, bus and taxi fares, official telephone calls and IT expenses and laundry and dry cleaning expenses, on production of receipts.
- e. Where an Elected Member or staff member is accompanied at an event, all costs for or incurred by the accompanying person, including, but not limited to, travel, breakfast, lunch and dinner, registration and/or participation in any event programs, are to be borne by the Elected Member or staff member or accompanying person and not by the City. The cost for an accompanying person attending any official event dinner where partners would normally be expected to attend shall be met by the City.
- f. An accompanying person's registration, or accompanying person's program fee, is to be paid to the conference organiser, at the time of registration. The City will administer the registration and payment process for the accompanying person if the relevant forms and payment are made to the City in advance for the accompanying person.
- g. Expenses will generally be reimbursed from the time an Elected Member or staff member leaves home to attend an event to the time the Elected Member or staff member returns home. Should a person extend a visit by leaving prior to the time necessary to arrive for the event or return after the time at which the person could have returned following the event, reimbursements will be paid:
 - i. for the days of the event only (including travel periods); and
 - ii. for the cost of travel to and from the airport to the accommodation to be used for the event.

3.3 Child Care Costs

[Local Government Act 1995 s.5.98(2)(a) and (3) and Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996 Reg.31(1)]

Elected Members shall be entitled to reimbursement of the lesser amount of actual child care costs or the amount prescribed by the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal for care of children, of which they are parent or legal guardian, whilst attending a Council meeting or a meeting of a committee of which he or she is a member, or completing the compulsory training for council members pursuant to section 5.126(1) of the Act.

Any reimbursement of costs under the terms of this Policy shall be made within 30 days of being invoiced for such expenditure.

4. OTHER SUPPORT / SUPPLIES

4.1 Insurance

The City will insure or provide insurance cover for Elected Members for:

- a. Personal accident whilst engaged in the performance of the official duties of their office, with the cover being limited to non-Medicare medical expenses as defined within the Insurance Policy.
- b. Spouses/partners of Elected Members are entitled to the same level of cover when attending meetings, conferences or functions with the express approval of the Chief Executive Officer.
- c. Professional indemnity for matters arising out of the performance of the official duties of their office provided the performance or exercise of the official duty is in the opinion of Council, not illegal, dishonest, against the interests of the City or otherwise in bad faith.

- d. Public liability for matters arising out of the performance of the official duties of their office but subject to any limitations set out in the policy of insurance.

4.2 City Vehicle provided to the Mayor

Private use of the Mayoral Vehicle will be in accordance with the *Council Policy: Private use of Mayor Vehicle*.

4.3 Name badges

The City will provide each Elected Member with a name badge to be worn at official functions and meetings

4.4 Car Parking

The City will provide each Elected Member with an annual car parking permit which enables free car parking whilst on Council-related business within the specified areas of the permit.

4.5 Clothing

The City will provide each Elected Member with an embroidered City of Bunbury blazer upon request. A maximum of two blazers per member per elected term will be made available.

The City will provide each Elected Member with two polo shirts upon request. Options available will be in accordance with the City's nominated colours/style. The City's logo with the word MAYOR or COUNCILLOR underneath the logo will be embroidered on the shirts. A maximum of two polo shirts per member per elected term will be made available.

4.6 General

The Mayor shall, in carrying out the duties and responsibilities of that Office, be entitled to receive the benefit of the following facilities without the reduction of the fees and allowances approved by Council under Section 5.98, 5.98A, 5.99 and 5.99A of the *Local Government Act 1995*:

1. Access to the Marion Hudson room lounge and refreshments;
2. Suitable contemporary office accommodation within the Administration Building; and
3. Administrative assistance associated with any Council functions, meetings, publications and the like, that relate to the discharge of the duties of the Officer of Mayor.

The Deputy Mayor and Elected Members shall, in carrying out the duties and responsibilities of their Office, be entitled to receive the benefit of the following facilities without the reduction of the fees and allowances under Section 5.98, 5.98A, 5.99 and 5.99A of the *Local Government Act 1995*:

1. Access to the Marion Hudson room lounge and refreshments;
2. Access to suitably equipped shared office accommodation, reading room, meeting and conference rooms within the Administration Building with photocopying, printing, facsimile, internet and telephone facilities via the Executive Assistant to the Mayor; and
3. Some administrative support as resources allow, including limited word processing, photocopying, and postage, that relate to the discharge of the duties of the Officer of Deputy Mayor or Councillor.

All equipment, facilities and support listed above are provided to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors on the absolute understanding that they will not be used for any election purposes.

COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS

LEGISLATION

- [Local Government Act 1995](#)
- [Local Government \(Administration\) Regulations 1996](#)
- [Salaries and Allowances Act 1975](#)
- [Salaries and Allowances Tribunal Determination on Local Government Elected Council Members](#)

INDUSTRY

ORGANISATIONAL

- *Council Policy: Private Use of Mayoral Vehicle*




Private Use of
Mayoral Vehicle Cou

- [Annexure A: Accommodation and Incidental Allowances Claim Form](#)
- [Annexure B: Private Vehicle Allowance Claim Form](#)
- [Annexure C: City of Bunbury Travelling Allowance Schedule](#)
- [Annexure D: City of Bunbury Motor Vehicle Allowance Schedule for Elected Members](#)

Document Control					
Document Responsibilities:					
Owner:	Chief Executive Officer	Owner Business Unit:	Manager Governance		
Reviewer:	Manager Governance	Decision Maker:	Council		
Document Management:					
Adoption Details	Res 363/17 3 October 2017	Review Frequency:	biennial	Next Due:	2027
Review Version	Decision Reference:	Synopsis:			
DOC/442460[v8]	Council Decision 025/25 25 February 2025	Reviewed and amended – Included new provisions in relation to IT hardware for Elected Members in addition to ICT allowance.			
DOC/442460[v7]	Council Decision 281/22 20 December 2022	Reviewed and amended – minor changes to ensure consistency with amended legislation.			
DOC/442460[v6]	Council Decision 087/22 17 May 2022	Reviewed and amended – updated policy to clarify definition of ICT allowance and process of Elected Members setting up an ICT device.			
DOC/442460[v5]	Council Decision 045/22 22 February 2022	Reviewed and amended – updated policy position relating to Elected Member payments as a percentage. Increase from 50% to 100%.			
DOC/442460[v4]	Council Decision 261/20 8 December 2020	Reviewed and amended – clarification of personal accident insurance coverage in point 4.1(a)			
DOC/442460[v3]	Council Decision 220/20 29 September 2020	Reviewed and amended – inclusion of a policy position relating to Elected Member payments as a percentage			
DOC/442460[v2]	Council Decision 005/20 21 January 2020	Reviewed and amended – updating technical requirements for electronic devices and clarifying the process for payment of annual ICT Allowance.			
DOC/442460[v1]		Converted from Mydocs to CM9			
CP-039952	Res 305-18 16 October 2018	Review and amended			
Date Printed	7/03/2025				

Annexure A

 <p>CITY OF BUNBURY</p>	<p>Accommodation and Incidental Allowances Claim Form</p>
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DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEE NAME

GL NUMBER ADDRESS.....

CLAIM PARTICULARS – Please ensure receipts or invoices are attached

I hereby make claim for expenses incurred whilst attending the following event:

Conference/Seminar Name:

Name of Town/City and State in which event was held:

Type of Accommodation Claimed: [] Hotel [] Private Accommodation

Hotel Name:

Period Claimed: (from) to

Total Number of Days Claimed

Number of Days @ (daily rate) \$..... **Sub-total** \$.....

Other Incidental Expenses:

Type Amount \$.....

Type Amount \$.....

TOTAL THIS CLAIM \$.....

If claiming for travelling expenses, complete the section below:

Date	Departure Place	Time	Arrival Place	Time

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE EXPENSES CLAIMED WERE INCURRED ON OFFICIAL COUNCIL BUSINESS AND COMPLY WITH COUNCIL POLICY AND ALL COSTS ARE SUBSTANTIATED WITH RECEIPTS AND/OR INVOICES.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT: **DATE:**

OFFICE USE ONLY:

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORISING OFFICER:



Private Vehicle Allowance Claim Form

I _____ hereby claim payment for use of my private vehicle on Council business and declare this claim to be true and correct.

Make of Vehicle _____

Registration Number _____

Engine Capacity (CC) _____

DATE	TRIP, JOB OR INSPECTION	KILOMETRES

TOTAL KMS _____
RATE PER KM _____
AMOUNT CLAIMED \$ _____

SIGNATURE _____

AUTHORISED – MANAGER _____

Annexure C

City of Bunbury Travelling Allowance Schedule*(An extract from the Public Service Award 1992 Schedule 1 – Travelling, Transfer and Relieving Allowance)***ALLOWANCE TO MEET INCIDENTAL EXPENSES (Must be substantiated with receipts)**

- | | | |
|-----|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| (1) | WA – South of 26° South Latitude | \$14.55 per day (Maximum) |
| (2) | WA – North of 26° South Latitude | \$21.70 per day (Maximum) |
| (3) | Interstate | \$21.70 per day (Maximum) |

ACCOMMODATION INVOLVING AN OVERNIGHT STAY IN A HOTEL OR MOTEL INCLUDING THE COST OF ALL MEALS (Must be substantiated with receipts or invoice)

- | | | |
|-----|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| (4) | WA Metropolitan Hotel or Motel | \$305.45 per day (Maximum) |
| (5) | Locality South of 26° South Latitude | \$208.55 per day (Maximum) |
| (6) | Locality North of 26° South Latitude | \$ Variable Rate (Refer CEO) |
| (7) | Interstate – Capital City: | |
| | Sydney | \$304.90 per day (Maximum) |
| | Melbourne | \$288.55 per day (Maximum) |
| | Other Capitals | \$270.10 per day (Maximum) |
| (8) | Interstate Other than Capital City | \$208.55 per day (Maximum) |

ACCOMMODATION INVOLVING OVERNIGHT STAY AT OTHER THAN HOTEL OR MOTEL INCLUDING THE COST OF ALL MEALS

- | | | |
|------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| (9) | WA South of 26° South Latitude | \$93.65 per day (Maximum) |
| (10) | WA North of 26° South Latitude | \$128.25 per day (Maximum) |
| (11) | Interstate | \$128.25 per day (Maximum) |

TRAVEL NOT INVOLVING AN OVERNIGHT STAY (All expenses must be substantiated with receipts)

Location	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner
WA – South of 26° South Latitude	\$16.30 (Maximum)	\$16.30 (Maximum)	\$46.50 (Maximum)
WA – North of 26° South Latitude	\$21.20 (Maximum)	\$33.20 (Maximum)	\$52.20 (Maximum)
Interstate	\$21.20 (Maximum)	\$33.20 (Maximum)	\$52.20 (Maximum)

**Current as at 28 August 2017*

ANNEXURE D

Extent of expenses to be reimbursed

The extent to which a council member of a local government can be reimbursed for reasonable travel costs referred to in regulation 31(1)(b) of the LG Regulations is:

- a. if the person lives or works in the local government district or an adjoining local government district, the actual cost for the person to travel from the person's place of residence or work to the meeting and back; or
- b. if the person does not live or work in the local government district or an adjoining local government district, the actual cost, in relation to a journey from the person's place of residence or work and back:
 - i. for the person to travel from the person's place of residence or work to the meeting and back; or
 - ii. if the distance travelled referred to in subparagraph (i) is more than 100 kilometres, for the person to travel from the outer boundary of an adjoining local government district to the meeting and back to that boundary.

The extent to which a council member of a regional local government can be reimbursed for reasonable travel costs referred to in regulation 31(1)(b) of the LG Regulations is the actual cost for the person to travel from the person's place of residence or work to the meeting and back.

Travel costs incurred while driving a privately owned or leased vehicle (rather than a commercially hired vehicle) are to be calculated at the same rate contained in Section 30.6 of the Local Government Officers' (Western Australia) Award 2021 as at the date of this determination. For members with Electric Vehicles, the 1600cc Motor Vehicle Allowance rate should be applied.

Section 30.6 of the Local Government Officers' (Western Australia) Award 2021

Rates of hire for use of an Officer's own motor vehicle on official business shall be as follows:

Area and Details	Engine displacement (in cubic centimetres)		
	Over 2600cc	Over 1600cc to 2600cc	1600cc and under
	Cents per Kilometre		
Metropolitan area	93.97	67.72	55.85
South West Land Division	95.54	68.66	56.69
North of 23.5 Latitude	103.52	74.12	61.21
Rest of state	99.01	70.87	58.37
Motor cycle	Rate c/km		
Distance travelled	42.55		

30.6.1 Motor vehicles with rotary engines are to be included in the 1600 - 2600 category.

30.6.2 Metropolitan area means that area within a radius of 50 kilometres from the Perth Railway Station.

30.6.3 South West Land Division means the South West Land Division as defined by Section 28 of the Land Act.

30.6.4 Other areas means that area of the State south of 23.5 degrees South Latitude, north of 23.5 degrees South Latitude, excluding the Metropolitan area and the South West Land Division.