

Meeting Date: Tuesday 8 December 2020
Location: Online Audio Visual Meeting
Time: 7.00pm

Council Meetings will be recorded on audio tape for minute-taking purposes as authorised by the Local Government Act 1993. Council Meetings will also be webcast.

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LATE ITEM

15 LOCAL GOVERNMENT REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL DETERMINATION - RECATAGORISATION OF CITY OF RYDE FROM METROPOLITAN MEDIUM TO METROPOLITAN LARGE COUNCIL

Report prepared by: Acting Manager - Corporate Governance
File No.: CLR/07/8/24 - BP20/1266

REPORT SUMMARY

This report is presented to Council to advise of the determination made by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal, which is a tribunal under the State Government's NSW Remuneration Tribunals Secretariat, to recategorise City of Ryde from a Metropolitan Medium to a Metropolitan Large Council.

This report also recommends that Council fix the fee for Councillors and the Mayor for 2020/2021 to the maximum for a Metropolitan Large Council.

It should be noted that, in previous years, Council has resolved to endorse the maximum fees payable to Councillors and the Mayor for its category.

Council can also determine to confirm its previous resolution from its meeting dated 23 June 2020 that the Councillor and Mayoral fees for 2020/21 remain as per the current amounts as detailed in Table 2 within this report which are highlighted in bold and underlined.

An alternative resolution is listed in the Options section of this report.

RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That Council acknowledges the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal determination that categorises the City of Ryde as a Metropolitan Large Council.
- (b) That Council determine to fix the fee for Councillors and the Mayor for 2020/21 to the maximum for a Metropolitan Large Council as detailed in Table 2 within this report, effective 1 July 2020, and be funded from savings in the 2020/21 Operational Plan as part of the December Quarterly Budget Review.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Councillor Salary Donation Authority Form

Report Prepared By:

Rafik Meleka

Acting Manager - Corporate Governance

Report Approved By:

Steven Kludass

Director - Corporate Services

ITEM 15 (continued)

Discussion

At its meeting held on 23 June 2020, Council resolved in part as follows:-

- (a) *That the General Manager facilitate a mechanism for Councillors to voluntarily donate some or all of their Councillor fees either back to the Council or to a nominated registered charity.*
- (b) *That Council not adopt the annual fee increase for 2020/2021 as determined by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal for its category with respect to the annual review of Councillor and the additional Mayoral fees.*

Categorisation of Council

This report is presented to Council to advise of the determination made by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal to recategorise City of Ryde from a Metropolitan Medium to a Metropolitan Large Council. Council was advised of this report by the Office of Local Government in late June 2020 and was to be reported to Council at the July Council Meeting.

Given the timing of the Tribunal's determination and the nature of the resolution passed by Council at the time, it was considered the matter had been sufficiently dealt with by the Council resolution. It has, however, come to light that the recategorisation aspect of the Tribunal's determination may not have been a critical factor considered in the resolution passed by Council on 23 June 2020.

In the "Annual Report and Determination of the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal", the Tribunal provides details for the recategorisation on the basis of the large non-resident working population in the Macquarie Park Business Park (MPBP) precinct. The Tribunal states that Ryde provides a sphere of economic influence and regional services which are considered akin to those of other Metropolitan Large Councils.

Further, Ryde has a non-resident working population of more than 50,000 and when combined with the resident population, City of Ryde meets the revised criteria for inclusion on the group of Metropolitan Large Councils (see table below from the Report of the Tribunal listing the Metropolitan Large Councils):-

TABLE 1

Metropolitan Large (11)	
Blacktown	Northern Beaches
Canterbury-Bankstown	Penrith
Cumberland	Ryde
Fairfield	Sutherland
Inner West	The Hills
Liverpool	

ITEM 15 (continued)

Review of Mayoral and Councillor Fees

In the “*Annual Report and Determination of the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal*”, it should be noted that given the current economic and social circumstances, the Tribunal determined that there be no increase in the minimum and maximum fees applicable to each existing category for 2020/21 financial year.

Tribunal Fee Range for 2020/21

Below is the Tribunal Fee Range for 2020/21 for Councillors and the Mayor for both Metropolitan Medium and Metropolitan Large categories. As the Tribunal determined no fee increase and Council’s resolution of 23 June 2020 also retained the status quo as to the Councillors’ fees for the 2020/21 financial year, Council’s current fees are highlighted in bold and underlined.

TABLE 2

Category	Councillor Fee (per annum)		Mayoral Additional Fee* (per annum)	
	Minimum	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum
Metropolitan Medium	\$13,820	<u>\$25,790</u>	\$29,360	<u>\$68,530</u>
Metropolitan Large	\$18,430	\$30,410	\$39,160	\$88,600

* Note: The Mayor receives the Mayoral fee in addition to the Councillor fee.

It should be noted that, in previous years, Council has resolved to endorse the maximum fees payable to Councillors and the Mayor for its category.

It should also be noted that if Council decides to fix the fee for the new category that this is not an annual increase but a change in fee to reflect the new category and additional responsibility.

As set out in Council’s previous resolution from its meeting held on 23 June 2020, Councillors have the option to voluntarily donate some or all of their Councillors fees either back to Council or to a nominated registered charity. The form is provided for as **ATTACHMENT 1**.

Financial Implications

If Council were to resolve to increase the Councillor and Mayoral fees to the maximum fees payable in line with the Metropolitan Large recategorisation, an additional budget of approximately \$75,500 will be required to fund the fees which would be funded from savings in the 2020/21 Operational Plan as part of the December Quarterly Budget Review.

ITEM 15 (continued)**Option**

Council has the option to confirm its previous position.

“That Council confirm its previous resolution from its meeting dated 23 June 2020 that the Councillor and Mayoral fees for 2020/21 remain as per the current fees as highlighted in bold and underline in Table 2 within this report.”

If Council resolves to confirm its previous resolution and retain the status quo, there will be no additional financial impact.

ITEM 15 (continued)

ATTACHMENT 1

COUNCILLOR SALARY DONATION AUTHORITY FORM

About this form

On 2 July 2020, Council resolved that the General Manager facilitate a mechanism for Councillors to voluntarily donate some or all of their Councillor fees either back to the Council or to a nominated registered charity. Please complete the fields below and email a signed copy of the form to deskhelp@ryde.nsw.gov.au. Desk Help will forward this on to Payroll for processing in the next available pay run.

Council Contact Details

Customer Service Centre 1 Pope Street, Ryde NSW
Post Locked Bag 2069, North Ryde NSW 1670
Email cityofryde@ryde.nsw.gov.au
Phone (02) 9952 8222
TTY (02) 9952 8470
Fax (02) 9952 8070

PART 1 : COUNCILLOR DETAILS

Given Name	<input type="text"/>	Family Name	<input type="text"/>
Preferred contact	<input type="checkbox"/> Mobile	<input type="checkbox"/> Phone	<input type="checkbox"/> Email
Mobile	<input type="text"/>	Phone	<input type="text"/>
Email	<input type="text"/>		

PART 2 : DETAILS OF DONATION

I understand that any contribution I choose to make will be deducted from my net salary (after tax). I acknowledge also that any donation I make is non-refundable.

I consent to donate

All of my Councillor fees from City of Ryde

Part of my Councillor fees from City of Ryde
If part of my Councillor fees, state amount to be donated \$

OR Percentage of monthly salary % To be deducted monthly from my net pay until

OR As a lump-sum (one-off) payment

I would like this donation to go to Council's nominated account My nominated registered charity

Charity details

Charity Name	<input type="text"/>	Charity ABN	<input type="text"/>
Address	<input type="text"/>		
Suburb	<input type="text"/>	Postcode	<input type="text"/>
Phone	<input type="text"/>		
BSB	<input type="text"/>	Account Number	<input type="text"/>

PART 3 : DECLARATION

I give permission for this amount to be deducted from my net salary for the time period stated above.

Signature	<input type="text"/>	Date	<input type="text"/>
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Personal information collected from you is held and used by Council under the provisions of the *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998*. The supply of information is voluntary, however if you cannot provide, or do not wish to provide the information sought, Council may be unable to process your request. Please note that the exchange of information between the public and Council, may be accessed by others and could be made publicly available under the *Government Information Public Access Act 2009 (GIPA Act)*. If you require further information please contact Council's Customer Service Centre on 9952 8222.