



# Periodic adjustment of council member allowances

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Periodic adjustment of council member allowances



**4th November 2021**

Council member allowances are due for periodic adjustment on 9 November and this article provides guidance on how to make the adjustments.

Under the *Local Government Act 1999* (**Local Government Act**) a council member is entitled to an allowance as determined by the [Remuneration Tribunal of South Australia](#) prior to the periodic election.

The Remuneration Tribunal Determination sets an annual allowance for all councillors, as well as sitting fees and travel time allowances (as applicable). All allowances are required to be adjusted, in accordance with section 76(9) of the Local Government Act, on the first, second and third anniversaries of the periodic election to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index.

Please note, section 76(9) of the Local Government Act was amended on 20 September 2021 to remove reference to the scheme prescribed by regulations that has previously dealt with the annual adjustment of council member allowances.

Moving forward, the change in the Consumer Price Index to be applied is the most recently available annual percentage in the Consumer Price Index (All groups index for Adelaide).

Council member allowances are due for adjustment on 9 November 2021, being the third anniversary of the November 2018 periodic election.

The Remuneration Tribunal Determination No. 6 of 2018 specifies the initial allowances (for all councils other than City of Adelaide) and is available [here](#)

## Annual Allowance

The LGA has calculated the adjusted annual allowances across the five council groupings identified in the Remuneration Tribunal Determination No.6, using the Consumer Price Index (All groups index for Adelaide) for the September 2021 quarter. Councils are encouraged to check the calculations themselves.

The table sets out the 2021 adjusted annual allowance for a council member who is not a Principal Member, Deputy Member, Deputy Chairperson or Presiding Member of a Prescribed Committee.

Council Groups are provided at Appendix 1 of the Remuneration Tribunal Determination No. 6.

<b>Council Group</b>	<b>Adjusted Allowance from 9 November 2021</b>
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Group 1A	\$25,083
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Group 1B	\$22,162
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Group 2	\$18,553
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Group 3	\$14,932
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Group 4	\$10,635
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Group 5	\$6,983
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The Remuneration Tribunal Determination details the method of calculating the annual allowances for a Principal Member, Deputy Mayor, Deputy Chairperson or Presiding Member of a Prescribed Committee. Allowances for Principal Members are four times the allowance for a councillor of that council. Allowances for Deputy Mayors, Deputy Chairpersons and Presiding Members of Prescribed Committees are one and a quarter times the allowance for a councillor of that council.

## Sitting fees

A sitting fee (including a limit on the annual aggregate amount) is payable to a councillor (other than the Principal Member or Deputy Principal Member, Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson or a Presiding Member of a Prescribed Committee) who is the Presiding Member of a Council Committee that is not a Prescribed Committee. The definition of a Prescribed Committee is set out in paragraph 3 of the Remuneration Tribunal Determination.

The adjusted allowances with effect from 9 November 2021 have been calculated by the LGA as follows:

Council Groups 1A and 1B - \$248 per meeting limited to an aggregate amount of \$1483 per annum

Council Groups 2 and 3 - \$183 per meeting limited to an aggregate amount of \$1096 per annum

Council Groups 4 and 5 - \$119 per meeting limited to an aggregate amount of \$709 per annum

## Travel time allowances

Travel time allowances payable to council members of non-metropolitan councils are set out in paragraphs 8 through 11 of the Remuneration Tribunal Determination. A list of non-metropolitan councils is provided in Appendix 2 to the Determination.

The adjusted allowances have been calculated by the LGA at \$441 per annum (paragraph 8), \$752 per annum (paragraph 9), \$1,129 per annum (paragraph 10) and \$1601 per annum (paragraph 11).

## City of Adelaide allowances

The Remuneration Tribunal Determination No. 7 of 2018 specifies the initial allowances for City of Adelaide and is available [here](#)

These allowances are also to be periodically adjusted in accordance with the most recently available annual percentage change in the Consumer Price Index (All groups index for Adelaide).

The LGA has calculated the adjusted annual allowances using the Consumer Price Index (All groups index for Adelaide) for the September 2021 quarter:

<b>Lord Mayor</b>	\$190,135
<b>Council Member</b>	\$27,854

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**Sitting Fee per meeting** \$301

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**Sitting Fee (max. aggregate)** \$1,805

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**for more information...**

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