

**GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

14th December 2004

**GM3                      MAYORAL AND COUNCILLOR FEES  
FILE: C18-16            AVB****SUMMARY:**

To determine whether Council wishes to make a submission in respect to the payment of Mayoral and Councillor fees for the 2005 / 2006 year.

**DESCRIPTION:**

Pursuant to Section 243 of the Local Government Act 1993 the Local Government Annual determination by no later than 30th April 2005, on the fees payable to Councillors and Mayors to take effect from 1st July 2005. Submissions by the 3rd December are invited from all councils on the appropriateness of the current fee levels.

Submissions should address the following matters;

- Is the current category structure of Categories 2 - 5 appropriate. Should these Categories be reduced / expanded and if so on what basis.
- Does the current Category definition as outlined in the Tribunal's 1995 Report still accurately describe your council.
- Whether the current categorisation is appropriate for your council. If not where should it be categorised and on what basis should this re-categorisation be granted.
- Has the role of your council changed since 1995. If so how.
- What additional responsibilities has your council undertaken since 1995, what are the issues facing council in the next few years and what steps is council taking to address them.
- What other matters would you wish the Tribunal to consider as part of this review.

[\(Appendix A - Part 1, Part 2, Part 3, Part 4, Part 5 and Part 6\)](#) outlines the councils in each category and the 2004 / 2005 remuneration determination.

The Tribunal commenced a review of Category 3 councils in 2003 following submissions from a number of councils in that group and submissions have been received from a number of councils in other groups.

Category 1 councils are councils in the metropolitan area with regional CBDs.

Category 2 councils are the remainder of the metropolitan councils, Category 3 councils are the larger rural councils, Category 4 councils are medium sized rural councils, while Category 5 councils are the smaller rural councils.

Kempsey Shire is a Category 3 council. Some of the larger Councils in this group are lobbying for a separate group. Kempsey Shire would be unlikely to be upgraded as it is the fourth smallest council in the group in population terms and the fifth smallest in expenditure terms.

Under the circumstances I do not see any benefit in Council preparing a submission.

**REPORT IMPLICATIONS:**

- ***Environmental***

***Nil***

- ***Social***

***Nil***

- ***Economic (Financial)***

***Nil***

- ***Policy or Statutory***

***Nil***

- ***General Manager's Review***

***Nil***

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**That Council not make a submission to the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal.**

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**A V Burgess**  
**GENERAL MANAGER**