

Papakura Local Board Feedback - Remuneration Authority - Local Government Review 2017

Background

The Papakura Local Board is one of 21 local boards that sits within Auckland Council. It provides independent governance and decision making responsibility for the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of current and future communities in the Papakura area.

Local board members have the experience and knowledge of the Auckland Council's governance model which therefore enables them to advise on the remuneration proposals put forward by the Remuneration Authority.

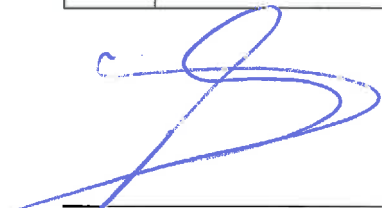
Feedback

The Papakura Local Board provides the following feedback points in relation to the Remuneration Authority - Local Government Review 2017.

No.	Heading	Detail	Papakura Local Board feedback
1.	Factors to be used in sizing local board member remuneration	The role and responsibilities of local board members, chair and deputy chair are primarily driven by statutory and allocated roles and responsibilities. There is a base level of work and activities that all local boards are required to undertake regardless of budget or population size. Namely the preparation of local board plans, local board agreements, inputting into numerous regional policies and plans as well as the responsibilities of local activities, managing issues, providing facilities and services.	i) The board agrees that the roles and responsibilities of local boards have the most significant influence on the workload of local board members (including chairs and deputy chairs) and should be the primary factor in determining the base level of local board remuneration across all local boards.
2.	Local board member remuneration	Currently, candidates know the remuneration they will receive if successful and can plan accordingly. This certainty is also relevant to local board members considering a role as chair or deputy chair of a local board. The proposed remuneration pool will create uncertainty, as the actual level of remuneration for specific local board roles will not be set until after the local government election. This could cause financial hardship for candidates whom have reduced their hours of work elsewhere to take up a	i) The current approach to determining the remuneration for local board chairs should continue. The process should be depoliticised and remain with the Remuneration Authority determining the amounts. ii) If however, the Remuneration Authority decides to allocate a remuneration pool to Auckland Council, then the remuneration for local board chairs should be set

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		role as a local board member.	by the Remuneration Authority taking into account the role and capabilities required of a local board chair.
3.	Local board chair remuneration	The local board chair has a leadership role, with broad oversight of all local board activities and also takes on many additional tasks. The role of the local board chair requires a fulltime commitment. The specific requirements of the role and workload are unique to Auckland and its governance structure, and are not comparable to roles in other local authorities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) The Local board chair's role should be treated as a full time role and remunerated accordingly. ii) The remuneration for local board chairs should continue to be set by the Remuneration Authority.
4.	Local board deputy chair remuneration	Local board deputy chairs have a major role, which extends beyond that of a local board member. A role and capability description has been developed which demonstrates the additional workload expectations of a deputy chair. Currently the deputy chair does not receive additional remuneration.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) The Remuneration Authority should increase the rate of remuneration for local board deputy chairs to reflect the additional responsibilities and workload expected of this role.
5.	Adequacy of information	Significant work has been undertaken over the last two years to define the roles and capabilities required of its elected members. Board members are confident that the requirement of these roles are now well defined and that there is sufficient clarity on board member, chair and deputy chair roles for the Remuneration Authority to continue with its current practice of setting the rates of remuneration.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) The local board does not agree with the principle of local authorities deciding their own remuneration. ii) The board does not agree that local board remuneration should be decided by Auckland Council (either by the governing body and / or local boards) through a remuneration pool allocated by the Remuneration Authority. iii) We believe that the current regime, where remuneration is transparently determined by an independent authority, is preferable and should continue, and that there is sufficient clarity on roles to enable the Remuneration

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			<p>Authority to make its determination</p> <p>iv) The decisions relating to remuneration needs to sit with the Remuneration Authority.</p> <p>v) The Remuneration Authority needs to take into consideration the structure of Auckland Council governance structure.</p> <p>vi) The board does not agree to bulk funding as the job is the same no matter how big the population base. The larger boards have larger number of members to share the workload.</p>



Brent Catchpole
Chairperson
Papakura Local Board

20 OCTOBER
Date 2017



Felicity Auva'a
Deputy Chairperson
Papakura Local board

20/10/17
Date

