## **Dear Tribunal Members**

I write to make a submission to the Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal in relation to the 2025 Annual Adjustment to the allowances for Mayors, Deputy Mayors and Councillors.

What other matters should the Tribunal consider when making the Determination, if any, in addition to those listed in section 24(2) of the VIRTIPS Act?

The Tribunal should consider the results of the recent Victorian Councillor Census conducted by VLGA. In particular, the Tribunal should consider the following key findings:

- Councillors reported an average of 29.2 hours per week is required to perform their role
- 64% of councillors reported that the time commitment required is higher or much higher than they expected.
- 73% of councillors reported that the time demands are not appropriate for the remuneration.

This is the first time that such a census has been conducted. Whereas previous annual adjustments may have had to rely on assumptions about the workload of councillors, we now have data about the demands of the role, and this should be considered when making the Determination.

Kind regards

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