Hi,

I am writing to submit a suggestion regarding the current categorisation of Council allowances across the four allowance categories. From my observations, there seems to be a lack of consistency and effective reasoning behind the categorisation process.

In my opinion, the allowance and category level should accurately reflect the size of the municipality, and the subsequent workload involved in these different Councils. For instance, some Councils have more than twice or three times as many residents as others, yet they are allocated the same allowance. This disparity doesn't seem fair or logical.

By way of example to highlight the differential, the the number of residents as the yet the Councillors, Mayor, and Deputy Mayor receive the same allowance (Category 3). There does not appear to be equity or reasonable justification in this approach.

I strongly believe that Category 4 should be utilised for larger Councils, not just limited to the City of Melbourne. By doing so, we can ensure a more equitable distribution of allowances that truly correspond to the workload demands and responsibilities of each Council.

Thank you for considering my suggestion.

I request that my submission remain deidentified if published.

Kind regards,

