



The Hon Nick Staikos MP

Minister for Consumer Affairs
Minister for Local Government

Level 1, 2 Treasury Place
East Melbourne, Victoria 3002

Mr Warren McCann
Chair
Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal
By email: enquiries@remunerationtribunal.vic.gov.au

BMIN-251200076

Dear Mr McCann,

Thank you for your letter of 5 June 2025 seeking my agreement to bring forward the Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal's (the Tribunal) next comprehensive determination of mayoral, deputy mayoral and councillor allowances (council allowances).

Following consultation with the Minister for Finance, the Hon Danny Pearson MP, I am writing to formally request that the Tribunal make a new determination of council allowances under section 23A(6) of the *Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal and Improving Parliamentary Standards Act 2019*.

In addition to the matters raised in your letter of 5 June 2025, the Tribunal may wish to consider the following matters:

- any relationship between council allowances and the diversity and representation of council members (in particular, the representation of women)
- the alignment of allowances for mayors, deputy mayors and acting mayors to the roles, responsibilities and capabilities under the *Local Government Act 2020* (LGA 2020)
- any guidance the Tribunal may provide to support consistent council arrangements for the expenses, resources and facilities reasonably necessary for council members to perform their roles
- whether access to a councillor assist program should be included in the available allowances to councillors
- any recent events that may be relevant to the Tribunal's view of the purpose of council allowances, including the State of Disaster declared from 10 January 2026 and changes to the electoral representation framework under the LGA 2020.

Tribunal secretariat officers may contact Dan Harper, Acting Executive Director, Local Government Victoria on [REDACTED] or at [REDACTED] for further information.

Thank you for undertaking this important task for the Victorian local government sector.
I look forward to the Tribunal's next determination of council allowances.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nick Staikos', written in a cursive style.

The Hon Nick Staikos MP
Minister for Consumer Affairs
Minister for Local Government

18.2.2026