



## Policy for the Payment of Expenses and the Provision of Facilities to Mayors and Councillors

Strategic

(Pursuant to Sections 12, 2 3A, 252, 253 and 254 of the Local Government Act and Clauses 217 and 403 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005)

### **Part 1 - INTRODUCTION**

#### Title and Commencement of the Policy

This Policy shall be cited as the Policy for the Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities to Councillors and is effective from 16 February 2017 and replaces the previous policy titled Policy for the Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities to Councillors adopted by Council on 19 November 2015.

#### Purpose of the Policy

The purpose of this Policy is to ensure that there is accountability and transparency in the reimbursement of expenses incurred or to be incurred by the Councillors. The Policy also ensures that the facilities provided to assist and support the Councillors to carry out their civic functions are reasonable.

#### Objectives and Coverage of the Policy

The objectives of this Policy are to:

- Provide a guide to councillors expenses and facilities
- Outline the process for paying expenses so that they can be properly recorded, reported and audited
- Comply with the guidelines issued by the Office of Local Government.

In this Policy, unless otherwise stated, the expression “Councillor” refers to all Councillors of Warrumbungle Shire Council including the Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

#### Basis of this Policy

The relevant legislative provisions for this policy are set out below. In this legislation the expression “year” means the period from 1 July to the following 30 June.

### **Local Government Act 1993**

#### **• 252 Payment of expenses and provision of facilities**

- (1) *Within the first 12 months of each term of Council, the Council must adopt a policy concerning the payment of expenses incurred or to be incurred by, and the provision of facilities to, the mayor, the deputy mayor (if there is one) and the other councillors in relation to discharging the functions of civic office.*
- (2) *The policy may provide for fees payable under this Division to be reduced by an amount representing the private benefit to the mayor or a councillor of a facility provided by the council to the mayor or councillor.*
- (3) *A council must not pay any expenses incurred or to be incurred by, or provide any facilities to, the mayor, the deputy mayor (if there is one) or a councillor otherwise than in accordance with a policy under this section.*
- (4) *A council may from time to time amend a policy under this section.*
- (5) *A policy under this section must comply with the provisions of this Act, the regulations and any relevant guidelines issued under section 23A.*

- **253 Requirements before policy concerning expenses and facilities can be adopted or amended**
  - (1) *A council must give public notice of its intention to adopt or amend a policy for the payment of expenses or provision of facilities allowing at least 28 days for the making of public submissions.*
  - (2) *Before adopting or amending the policy, the council must consider any submissions made within the time allowed for submissions and make any appropriate changes to the draft policy or amendment.*
  - (3) *Despite subsections (1) and (2), a council need not give public notice of a proposed amendment to its policy for the payment of expenses or provision of facilities if the council is of the opinion that the proposed amendment is not substantial.*
  - (4) *(Repealed)*
  - (5) *A council must comply with this section when proposing to adopt a policy in accordance with section 252 (1) even if the council proposes to adopt a policy that is the same as its existing policy.*

## **Part 2 - PAYMENT OF EXPENSES**

### **Allowances and expenses**

Council does not provide general expense allowances to Councillors. Councillors are entitled to the expenses set out in this policy provided that they satisfy the stated requirements.

This Policy is intended to cover most situations where a Councillor reasonably incurs expenses in discharging the functions of civic office.

The payment of expenses and reimbursement of expenses under this Policy shall only be in respect of costs directly associated with discharging the functions of civic office.

### **2.1 Establishment of Monetary Limits and Standards**

This policy identifies and publishes monetary limits and standards applicable to the payment of various expenses to Councillors. This allows members of the public to know the expected cost of providing services to Councillors and to make comment during the public consultation phase of making or amending the policy. It also avoids the situation where Councillors incur expenditure that is unforeseen or considered unreasonable by other Councillors and the public.

Monetary limits prescribed in this Policy set out the maximum amount payable in respect of any expense or facility.

Where a Councillor incurs expenses in the course of discharging their civic office responsibilities, such expenses will be reimbursed. Typical examples of such expenses include:

- Course fees
- Fares / parking / tolls
- Accommodation
- Meals
- Incidentals, including telephone or facsimile charges, internet charges, laundry and dry cleaning etc. while attending conferences, seminars etc.

Wherever possible, every effort should be made to minimise the extent of such expenses to a reasonable level. Furthermore, in the majority of cases course/conference fees and

accommodation will be pre-booked, negating the need for out-of pocket expenses to be incurred.

For accommodation or meals that Council has not prepaid, and for incidental expenses, Council will reimburse expenses incurred while attending conferences, seminars or official functions to the limits of the allowances set out in the Australian Tax Office's Taxation Determination TD 2016/13 or such determinations or policies of the Australian Tax Office that supersede it.

The limits will be applied as follows:

- Where Councillors' meals are not prepaid by Council or are not included in the seminar, conference, event or briefing fee, the monetary limits per day for meals are those set out under 'Food and Drink' in Table 3 paragraph 11 of TD 2016/13 (see Appendix A attached) or such determination or policies of the Australian Tax Office that supersede it. (As at July 2016 – Meal Allowance (per day) Breakfast \$34.00; Lunch \$48.00; Dinner \$67.30)
- Where Councillors incur incidental expenses, such as phone call and similar expenses, the monetary limits per day for those expenses are the rates set out under 'Incidentals' in Table 3 of paragraph 11 of TD 2016/13 or such determinations or policies of the Australian Tax Office that supersede it. (As at July 2016 – Incidental Expenses (per day) \$27.25)
- Where Councillors' accommodation expenses are not prepaid by Council or are not included in the seminar, conference, event or briefing fee, the monetary limits per day for those expenses are those set out under 'Accommodation' in Tables 3 and 4 (see Appendix A attached) of paragraph 11 of TD 2016/13 or such determinations or policies of the Australian Tax Office that supersede it.

With the approval of the Mayor and General Manager, a Councillor may expend more than the individual monetary limits per day for meals and incidental expenses, provided that the overall monetary limit per day in that case will be the sum of all of the monetary limits per day for meals and incidental expenses.

On completion of a discretionary trip or attendance, Councillors should provide a written report to Council on the aspects of the attendance that are relevant to Council's business and/or the local community. A report is not required for the LGNSW annual conference.

Where applicable the standard of any equipment, facility or service to be provided shall be to the maximum standard prescribed in this Policy.

## **2.2 Requirement for receipts**

Council will not reimburse any expenses unless a receipt or tax invoice is produced and the necessary claim forms completed.

## **2.3 Payment of Reimbursed claims**

Councillors are to submit all claims for reimbursement, including all travel expenses, to the General Manager or delegate in a form and manner acceptable to the General Manager in the circumstances to enable full assessment of the claim on a monthly basis and these will be paid with their monthly allowance. Tax invoices and receipts are to be supplied to support claims. All payments to Councillors will be via direct deposit to their nominated bank account. Councillors are to seek reimbursement for their expenses within three (3) months of the expense being incurred.

Should a determination be made that a claim should not be paid, the General Manager shall explain such decision to the Councillor and should the Councillor still believe that the claim should be paid, in part or in full, it shall be considered that a dispute exists.

In the event of a dispute at any time regarding this Policy, the parties to the dispute shall provide a written report on the nature of the dispute. The General Manager shall submit such reports to the next meeting of Council to have the dispute determined by a resolution of Council having regard to this Policy, the Act and any other relevant law. The decision of Council shall be binding on all of the parties.

#### **2.4 Accommodation and meal expenses**

Councillors shall be accommodated in the hotel where the conference, seminar, or training course is being held or the nearest hotel to it that is of a similar standard, or as authorised by the host organiser where the conference is not located within the Sydney metropolitan area. Accommodation shall be provided at the rate of a double room.

Such attendance to be confirmed by Council with reimbursement of costs and expenses to be made upon the production of appropriate receipts and/or tax invoices and completion of the required claim forms. Alternatively, accommodation can be booked by Council order form and allowance for incidental expenses as provided under clause (2.5).

#### **2.5 Incidental Expenses**

Incidental expenses such as public transport fares, parking fees, phone/fax expenses and expenses incurred as the result of the purchase of refreshments during meetings related to council business or meals not included in the registration fees for conferences or similar functions, will be reimbursed by Council on production by the Councillor of the relevant receipts together with an approved claim form in accordance with Table 3 of paragraph 11 of TD 2016/13 or such determinations or policies of the Australian Tax Office that supersede it. (see clause 2.1).

Council will not meet any expenses for alcohol, cigarettes or personal requirements. Council will not fully fund any activity where the Councillor is not in attendance for at least 90% of the specified activity. Other than in the most exceptional circumstances, where Councillor's expenses have been met by Council but the Councillor does not attend at least 90% of the activity, that Councillor will be required to show cause why they should not reimburse Council for any costs incurred.

#### **2.6 Payment of expenses for spouses, partners and accompanying persons**

In this clause accompanying person means a person who has a close personal relationship with a Councillor and/or provides carer support to the Councillor. Where the attendee is accompanied at a conference or seminar by his or her spouse or partner or accompanying person, the attendee will be required to meet all costs associated with their spouse or partner or accompanying person's travel expenses, additional accommodation expenses, tours and attendance unless otherwise resolved by Council.

Council will meet the reasonable costs of spouses and partners or an accompanying person for attendance at official council functions that are of a formal and ceremonial nature. Examples would be Australia Day award ceremonies, citizenship ceremonies and civic receptions. Such functions would be those that a Councillor's or General Manager's spouse, partner or accompanying person could be reasonably expected to attend.

By resolution of Council, costs and expenses incurred by the Mayor, Councillors (or General Manager or nominee) for other events or functions on behalf of their spouse, partner or accompanying person shall be reimbursed if the cost or expense relates

specifically to the ticket, meal, travel and accommodation and/or direct cost of attending the function.

## **2.7 Payments in advance**

Councillors may request payment in advance in anticipation of expenses to be incurred in attending conferences, seminars and training away from home or for the cost of service associated with a civic duty. Councillors must fully reconcile all expenses against the cost of the advance.

Within one (1) week of incurring the cost and/or returning home the Councillor shall submit the details to the General Manager for verification and pay back to Council any unspent money. The level of the supporting documentation is to be commensurate with the nature of the expenditure. The maximum value of a cash advance is \$563.20.

## **2.8 Approval arrangements**

Approval for discretionary trips and attendance at conferences and the like should be where possible, approved by a full meeting of the Council. If this is not possible then the approval should be given jointly by the Mayor and the General Manager. If the Mayor requires approval to travel outside of council meetings it should be given jointly by the Deputy Mayor or another Councillor and the General Manager.

## **2.9 Attendance at seminars and conferences**

Council has allocated \$31,000 to fund attendance at conferences, investigatory delegations and similar events. However, Council may agree to allocate additional funds in specific cases where it decides that there is a benefit to council from the attendance.

The following seminars, conferences and meetings are endorsed for attendance by council representatives:

- Annual conference of the Local Government NSW (Three (3) Councillors and General Manager)
- Roads Congress (Two (2) Councillors and General Manager)
- OROC meetings
- Country Mayor's Association meetings
- Mining Related Councils (Mayor and General Manager)
- ALGA – National General Assembly Local Government (Canberra) (Mayor and General Manager)

After returning from the conference, Councillors or a member of council staff accompanying the councillor/s, should provide a written report to council on the aspects of the conference relevant to council business and/or the local community.

No written report is required for the Annual Conferences of Local Government NSW.

Requests for attendance at other conferences or seminars should be lodged in writing outlining the benefits for Council.

Council will meet the costs of conference / seminar registration fees including the costs of related official lunches and dinners and associated tours where they are relevant to the business and interests of the Council. Council will also meet the reasonable cost of transportation and accommodation associated with attendance at the conference and Council shall meet the cost of breakfast, lunch and dinner for Councillors where any of the meals are not provided as part of the conference, seminar or training course.

## **2.10 Registration fees**

Registration fees for attendance at Council approved conferences and seminars will be paid by Council. These fees will include the costs of related official lunches and dinners and associated tours where they are relevant to the business and interests of the council.

## **2.11 Travel Expenses**

Council will meet all reasonable costs of transportation to and from conferences and seminars when they are not included in the conference fees. Councillors are entitled to use Taxis provided that the cost of a single trip does not exceed \$150 (including GST) unless approval is granted by the General Manager in exceptional circumstances. All travel by councillors should be undertaken by utilising the most direct route and the most practicable and economical mode of transport subject to any personal medical considerations.

Travel arrangements can include the use of a private vehicle, public transport, taxis, or travel using a council vehicle. Costs associated with parking fees and road tolls will be refunded on production of a receipt. The driver is personally responsible for all traffic or parking fines incurred while travelling in private or council vehicles on council business.

Claims for travelling expenses under this Policy shall include details of:

- Date and place of departure
- Date and place of arrival
- Distance travelled
- Fares and parking fees paid
- Amount claimed as travelling allowances
- Total amount of claim

Travel in a Councillor's own vehicle to Council and Committee meetings, formal or social functions or activities or other meetings involving the community whilst representing Council where attendance is approved by the Mayor and/or General Manager is to be paid at the per kilometre rate payable for claims by staff in the Local Government (State) Award.

Where the approved meeting, function or activity is within the Warrumbungle Shire Council boundary, reimbursement shall be on the basis of the distance from the Councillor's principal place of residence (if it is within the Warrumbungle Shire Council boundary) to the venue or, if the Councillor resides outside the Warrumbungle Shire Council boundary, from the Warrumbungle Shire Council boundary to the venue. Where the Councillor uses his/her own vehicle to travel to an approved function that is outside the Warrumbungle Shire Council boundary then council's reimbursement will be based on the total distance travelled from residence to venue and return if the Councillor resides within the Warrumbungle Shire Council boundary. If the Councillor does not reside within the Warrumbungle Shire Council boundary, then Council will reimburse the distance either:

- a) from the Councillor's residence to the venue, or
- b) from the Warrumbungle Shire Council boundary closest to the Councillor's residence to the venue, whichever is the lesser.

Claims for the above expenses require the submission of a claim form signed by the claimant detailing date, distance and reason for journey(s) with such claims to be submitted monthly.

Travel associated with authorised conferences, seminars and meetings may be undertaken by Council vehicle (where available) subject to prior approval by the General Manager, with fuel expenses etc. to be met by Council.

Council will meet the cost of return economy air travel or equivalent payment for attendance at authorised conferences/seminars.

Elected members using private vehicles will be paid the kilometre rate to a maximum payment, which is not to exceed economy class air fares to and from the particular destination.

All travel by Councillors that involves an overnight stay of one or two nights must be authorised in advance by the Mayor and General Manager (or in the event that the Mayor requires approval to travel outside of council meetings approval should be given jointly by the deputy mayor or another councillor and the general Manager.)

All travel by Councillors that involves an overnight stay of more than two nights must be authorised in advance by the Council.

Where travel for Council business or approved activities outside of the local government area is to be undertaken – arrangements for both travel and accommodation must be made through the General Manager and will be by the most practical method.

Prior approval of travel should generally be required for interstate travel. The application for approval should include full details of the travel, including itinerary, costs and reasons for the travel.

Overseas travel on behalf of council must be approved by a meeting of the full council prior to a councillor undertaking the trip.

## **2.12 Attendance at dinners and other non-council functions**

The costs of attendance by Councillors at dinners and other non-council functions which provide briefings to councillors from key members of the community, politicians and business will only be met by Council when the function is relevant to the council's interests and authorised by Council in advance.

No payment shall be made by Council for attendance by a councillor at any political fundraising event, for any donation to a political party or candidate's electoral fund, or for some other private benefit. Any expenses to be incurred that would be directed towards such events and activities will not be approved for payment.

## **2.13 Gifts**

Where it is appropriate for councillors **to give** a gift or benefit, these gifts and benefits will be of token value and in accordance with council's Code of Conduct.

## **2.14 Training and Educational expenses**

Council will only meet the costs of training or attendance at an educational course that is directly related to the Councillor's civic functions and responsibilities and is approved by Council prior to undertaking such training or attendance. Council has allocated \$5,000 to fund relevant training and educational courses and attendances at briefings.

## **2.15 Telephone and internet expenses**

Except as otherwise set out in this policy, Council will not reimburse Councillors for telephone expenses incurred in using their private/mobile phones for Council business.

Phones are available for Councillors' use at the Coolah and Coonabarabran offices of Council.

#### **2.16 Mobile telephone**

Council shall meet the cost of a mobile telephone for the Mayor, for which Council shall pay rental and 100% of metered calls charged against that service, to a limit of \$205 per month for Council business calls and \$20 per month for incidental personal calls, provided that the number is available to be given out for general public information.

#### **2.17 iPads**

Council shall meet the cost of providing and maintaining a mobile iPad device costs of communication via computer OR provision of an iPad with internet connectivity.

#### **2.18 Insurance Provisions**

Council will maintain adequate insurance against public liability and professional indemnity for matters arising out of Councillors' performance of their civic duties and/or exercise of their council functions.

Council shall pay the insurance policy excess in respect of any claim made against a Councillor arising from Council business where any claim is accepted by Council's insurers, whether defended or not.

#### **2.19 Legal Expenses and Obligations**

Council shall, if requested, indemnify or reimburse the reasonable legal expenses to a maximum of \$200,000 of:

- a Councillor defending an action arising from the performance in good faith of a function under the Local Government Act; or
- a Councillor defending an action in defamation provided the statements complained of were made in good faith in the course of exercising a function under the Act, provided that the outcome of the legal proceedings is favourable to the councillor; or
- a Councillor for proceedings before the Local Government Pecuniary Interest and Disciplinary Tribunal or an investigative body provided the subject of the proceedings arises from the performance in good faith of a function under the Act and the matter before investigative or review body has proceeded past any initial assessment phase to a formal investigation or review. In the case of a conduct complaint made against a councillor, legal costs will only be made available where a matter has been referred by the General Manager to a conduct reviewer/conduct review committee to make formal enquiries into that matter in accordance with the procedures in the Code of Conduct. In the case of a pecuniary interest or misbehaviour matter legal costs will only be made available where a formal investigation has been commenced by the Division of Local Government. Legal costs must only be provided where the investigative or review body makes a finding that is not substantially unfavourable to the councillor. This can include circumstances in which a matter does not proceed to a finding.

Legal expenses incurred in relation to proceedings arising out of the performance by a Councillor of his or her functions under the Act shall be distinguished from expenses incurred in relation to proceedings arising merely from something that a Councillor has done during his or her term in office. For example, expenses arising from an investigation as to whether a Councillor acted corruptly by using knowledge of a proposed rezoning for private gain is not covered by this provision.

Council shall not meet the costs for any legal assistance in respect of legal proceedings initiated by a Councillor in any circumstances.

Council must not meet the legal costs of a councillor seeking advice in respect of possible defamation, or in seeking a non-litigious remedy for possible defamation.

Council shall not meet the costs of any enquiry, investigation or hearing initiated at the request of, or to any legal proceedings taken by, Council itself.

## **2.20 Special requirements of Councillors – Care and Other Related Expenses**

Council shall meet reasonable expenses associated with any special requirements of a Councillor, such as disability and access needs, in order to discharge the functions of civic office.

Council will meet reasonable costs of facilitating access to council premises, functions and activities where, by reason of disability, care-giver role or other special need, a councillor would not otherwise have equity of access with other councillors. Such support will allow the fullest participation reasonably possible. Council will reimburse the reasonable cost of care arrangements, including childcare expenses and the care of elderly, disabled and/or sick immediate family members of councillors to allow councillors to undertake their council business obligations.

The total amount paid to a Councillor under this provision shall not exceed \$3,000 per year of term.

## **Part 3 – PROVISION OF FACILITIES**

Councillors shall not generally obtain private benefit from the provision of equipment and facilities. However, incidental personal use of Council equipment and facilities may occur from time to time without requiring reimbursement of the cost by a Councillor. No entitlement under this Policy shall be treated as being a private benefit that requires a reduction in the Mayoral fee or the Councillors fee.

Unless otherwise authorised in this Policy, if a Councillor does obtain a private benefit for the use of a facility provided by Council the Councillor shall be invoiced for the amount of the private benefit with repayment to be in accordance with Council's normal terms. The value of the private benefit shall be determined by Council in non-confidential session of a Council meeting.

Equipment, facilities and services provided under this Policy shall not be used to produce election material or for any other political purposes.

### **3.1 Mayoral Expenses, Facilities, Equipment and Services**

The Mayor will be entitled to receive the following benefits:-

- a) Provision of a Council vehicle for appropriate use by the Mayor to carry out his duties as Mayor. Council to meet all costs associated with the provision of the vehicle. The Mayor will have no right of private use of this vehicle with the exception that he may use the vehicle for limited private use travel within the Shire only when attending different functions on the same day.
- b) Secretarial services relating to the discharge of his/her civic functions, including use of official stationery, writing pads, pens, diaries, folders and postage of official correspondence.

- c) Administrative assistance associated with civic functions, meetings and the like.
- d) Office refreshments
- e) Supply of Name Badges, Business Cards, Diaries and Attaché Case.

### **3.2 Elected Members – Facilities, Equipment and Services**

The Councillors including the Deputy Mayor are entitled to receive the following benefits:-

- a) Use of Council Chambers, telephone and limited hospitality facilities (tea and coffee) for Council business or functions or community consultation.
- b) Secretarial services relating to the discharge of his/her civic functions, including use of official stationery where authorised by Mayor or General Manager.
- c) Postage of official correspondence dealing with Council business.
- d) Access to facsimile and photocopying facilities for Council related business.
- e) Transport to official functions when deputising for the Mayor (ie) Use of Mayoral vehicle if required.
- f) Supply of Name Badges and Note Books.

### **3.3 Bluetts Handbook**

Provide all Councillors with a copy of the Bluetts Handbook after their election.

### **3.4 Policies**

Policies are available on Council's website.

## **Part 4 – OTHER MATTERS**

### **4.1 Acquisition and return of equipment and facilities by Councillors**

At the completion of their term of office, during extended leave of absence or cessation of civic duties, Councillors are to return equipment and other facilities to the General Manager.

At the cessation of their duties, the option to purchase at a fair market price or written down value of equipment previously allocated to Councillors will be subject to determination by Council.

### **4.2 Status of the Policy**

This Policy replaces the previous version of the Policy adopted by Council on 19 November 2015 Minute No. 128/1516.

The Policy shall only be amended at a subsequent meeting of Council, subject to compliance with the Act.

## Appendix A

<b>Table 3: Employee's annual salary – \$209,001 and above</b>				
<b>Place</b>	<b>Accomm. \$</b>	<b>Food and drink \$ B'fast 34.00 Lunch 48.00 Dinner 67.30</b>	<b>Incidental s \$</b>	<b>Total \$</b>
Adelaide	209	149.30	27.25	385.55
Brisbane	257	149.30	27.25	433.55
Canberra	246	149.30	27.25	422.55
Darwin	287	149.30	27.25	463.55
Hobart	195	149.30	27.25	371.55
Melbourne	265	149.30	27.25	441.55
Perth	265	149.30	27.25	441.55
Sydney	265	149.30	27.25	441.55

<b>Table 3: Employee's annual salary – \$209,001 and above</b>				
<b>Place</b>	<b>Accomm. \$</b>	<b>Food and drink \$ B'fast 34.00 Lunch 48.00 Dinner 67.30</b>	<b>Incidental s \$</b>	<b>Total \$</b>
Country centres	\$195, or the relevant amount in Table 4 if higher	149.30	27.25	Variable – see Table 4 if applicable

Table 4: High cost country centres – accommodation expenses			
Country centre	\$	Country centre	\$
Albany (WA)	179	Jabiru (NT)	200
Alice Springs (NT)	150	Kalgoorlie (WA)	159
Bordertown (SA)	135	Karratha (WA)	300
Bourke (NSW)	165	Katherine (NT)	134
Bright (VIC)	152	Kingaroy (QLD)	134
Broome (WA)	260	Kununurra (WA)	202
Bunbury (WA)	155	Mackay (QLD)	161
Burnie (TAS)	160	Maitland (NSW)	152
Cairns (QLD)	153	Mount Isa (QLD)	160
Camarvon (WA)	151	Mudgee (NSW)	135
Castlemaine (VIC)	146	Newcastle (NSW)	165
Chinchilla (QLD)	143	Newman (WA)	195
Christmas Island (WA)	180	Norfolk Island (NSW)	329
Cocos (Keeling) Islands (WA)	285	Northam (WA)	163
Colac (VIC)	138	Orange (NSW)	155
Dalby (QLD)	150	Port Hedland (WA)	260
Dampier (WA)	175	Port Lincoln (SA)	170
Derby (WA)	190	Port Macquarie (NSW)	140
Devonport (TAS)	145	Port Pirie (SA)	150
Emerald (QLD)	156	Roma (QLD)	139
Esperance (WA)	141	Thursday Island (QLD)	200

Table 4: High cost country centres – accommodation expenses			
Country centre	\$	Country centre	\$
Exmouth (WA)	255	Townsville (QLD)	143
Geraldton (WA)	175	Wagga Wagga (NSW)	144
Gladstone (QLD)	187	Weipa (QLD)	138
Gold Coast (QLD)	200	Whyalla (SA)	163
Gosford (NSW)	140	Wilpena-Pound (SA)	167
Halls Creek (WA)	199	Wollongong (NSW)	136
Hervey Bay (QLD)	157	Wonthaggi (VIC)	138
Horn Island (QLD)	200	Yulara (NT)	300

**POLICY DOCUMENT CONTROL:**

Policy		Resolution	Date
Payment of Expenses Policy	Endorsed	233	16 June 2005
Payment of Expenses Policy	Amendment	49	18 August 2005
Payment of Expenses Policy	Amendment	393	18 May 2006
Payment of Expenses Policy	New Policy endorsed	199	17 December 2009
Payment of Expenses Policy	Revised Version	123	21 October 2010
Payment of Expenses Policy	Revised Version	181/1112	24 November 2011
Payment of Expenses Policy	Revised Version – 4	235/1213	21 February 2013
Payment of Expenses Policy	Revised Version – 5	168/1314	21 November 2013
Payment of Expenses Policy	Revised Version – 6	160/1415	20 November 2014
Payment of Expenses Policy	Revised Version – 7	128/1516	19 November 2015
Payment of Expenses Policy	Revised Version – 8	176/1617	16 February 2017