

## PAYMENT OF REMUNERATION TO COUNCILLORS

Determination of the level of remuneration payable to local government councillors (with the exception of Brisbane City Council councillors) is undertaken independently by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal.

Local governments are categorized by the Tribunal based on a number of criteria including, size, population and population spread, diversity, workload and extent of development (including economic and community development, infrastructure and industry). The Tablelands Regional Council has been categorized as a Category 5 Council.

Within each Category, a remuneration range is specified for each of the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors based on a percentage of the rate payable to a Member of the Queensland Legislative Assembly. Councils then have the ability to select a remuneration level within the specified range taking into account issues such as affordability and the level of involvement of councillors in Council affairs including attendance at Council meetings, committee meetings, meetings concerning the local government and community matters, deputations, inspections, and training and educational seminars and conferences which further the councillor's knowledge of local government affairs and requirements.

Because of the additional workload associated with amalgamated councils, the Tribunal has also determined an Amalgamation Loading which is payable in addition to the remuneration specified above. The Amalgamation Loading is to be progressively phased out and will cease after March 2012.

The level of remuneration payable to councillors of the Tablelands Regional Council from 1 January 2009 (as adopted by the Council at its meeting held on 21 January 2009) is as follows:

1. The purpose for which the remuneration is to be paid is to provide compensation for the time and effort Councillors spend on Council business.
2. The persons entitled to the remuneration and the level of remuneration shall be set as follows:
  - i. Mayor           \$126,560 pa  
Deputy Mayor                 \$85,430 pa  
Councillors                     \$75,940 pa
  - ii. plus an additional loading because of the extra work created by the amalgamation as follows:

	15 March 2008 to 30 June 2009	1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010	1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011	1 July 2011 to March 2012
Mayor	\$11,070	\$8,300	\$5,540	\$2,770
Deputy Mayor	\$7,750	\$5,810	\$3,880	\$1,940
Councillor	\$6,800	\$5,100	\$3,400	\$1,700

The Mayor indicated that he would not be accepting the increase in his salary from 1 January 2009 and his previous salary level of \$120,230 will therefore continue.