

Local Government Elected Members (2025/26) Amendment Determination 2026

This determination is made by the Remuneration Authority under the Remuneration Authority Act 1977 and clause 6 of Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002, after having regard to the matters specified in clause 7 of that schedule.

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Determination

1 Title

This determination is the Local Government Elected Members (2025/26) Amendment Determination 2026.

2 Commencement

- (1) This determination is deemed to have come into force on 12 October 2025.
- (2) However, clause 4(7) comes into force on the earlier of the following:
 - (a) the day after the date on which the official result of the 2026 election of members of the Papatoetoe subdivision of the Ōtara–Papatoetoe Local Board is declared;
 - (b) the day after the date on which the Auckland High Court delivers a decision with the effect of reinstating the previously disqualified members of the Papatoetoe subdivision of the Ōtara–Papatoetoe Local Board.

3 Principal determination

This determination amends the Local Government Elected Members (2025/26) Determination 2025.

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4 Schedule 3 amended

- (1) In Schedule 3, Part 1, item relating to Canterbury Regional Council, after the item relating to Regional Council Chairperson, insert:

Councillor with no additional responsibilities	86,284	17 October 2025
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- (2) In Schedule 3, Part 1, item relating to Hawke’s Bay Regional Council, after the item relating to Regional Council Chairperson, insert:

Regional Council Deputy Chairperson	79,455	30 October 2025
Chair, Regional Transport Committee	79,455	13 November 2025
Chair, Environment Committee	79,455	13 November 2025
Chair, Investment Strategy Committee	79,455	13 November 2025
Co-Chair, Regional Planning Committee	79,455	13 November 2025
Councillor with no additional responsibilities	67,000	18 October 2025

- (3) In Schedule 3, Part 1, item relating to Southland Regional Council, after the item relating to Regional Council Chairperson, insert:

Regional Council Deputy Chairperson and Chair of Regional Transport Committee	66,313	29 October 2025
Chair Strategy and Policy Committee	61,576	21 November 2025
Chair Integrated Catchment Management Committee	61,576	21 November 2025
Chair Regulatory Committee	56,840	21 November 2025
Chair Finance and Performance Committee	56,840	21 November 2025
Councillor with no additional responsibilities	47,367	17 October 2025

- (4) In Schedule 3, Part 1, item relating to Taranaki Regional Council, after the item relating to Regional Council Chairperson, insert:

Regional Council Deputy Chairperson and Policy and Planning Chairperson	68,669	5 November 2025
Executive, Audit and Risk Chairperson	68,669	5 November 2025
Operations and Regulatory Chairperson	68,669	5 November 2025
Regional Transport Committee Chairperson	52,300	5 November 2025
Councillor with no additional responsibilities	40,357	18 October 2025

- (5) In Schedule 3, Part 1, item relating to Waikato Regional Council, after the item relating to Regional Council Chairperson, insert:

Regional Council Deputy Chairperson	83,618	30 October 2025
High Complexity Leadership (2)	80,273	19 December 2025
Multiple Leadership (3)	76,929	19 December 2025
Single Major Chair (2)	76,929	19 December 2025
Standard Chair/Co-Chair (2)	73,584	19 December 2025
Single Deputy Chair (3)	70,239	19 December 2025

- (6) In Schedule 3, Part 2, item relating to Auckland Council, item relating to Ōtara–Papatoetoe Local Board, after the item relating to Deputy Chairperson, insert:

Lead Member—Governance and Co-ordination	84,900	21 January 2026
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Enhanced Member Role—Additional Representative Responsibilities (2)	75,800	21 January 2026
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(7) In Schedule 3, Part 2, item relating to Auckland Council, item relating to Ōtara–Papatoetoe Local Board, revoke the items relating to Lead Member—Governance and Co-ordination and Enhanced Member Role—Additional Representative Responsibilities (2).

(8) In Schedule 3, Part 2, item relating to Buller District Council, after the item relating to Mayor, insert:

Deputy Mayor and Chair of the Community Committee	48,402	30 October 2025
Chair of Regulatory Hearings Committee	37,000	18 December 2025
Councillor with no additional responsibilities	34,750	16 October 2025

(9) In Schedule 3, Part 2, item relating to Central Hawke’s Bay District Council, after the item relating to Mayor, insert:

Deputy Mayor	54,626	29 October 2025
Councillors with Committee Chair responsibilities (2)	51,211	12 December 2025
Councillor with Committee Deputy Chair responsibilities	40,969	12 December 2025
Councillor with Subcommittee Chair responsibilities	40,969	12 December 2025
Councillors with 2 Deputy Chair responsibilities	42,676	12 December 2025
Councillors with 2 committee responsibilities	37,555	12 December 2025
Councillor with a committee responsibility	35,848	12 December 2025
Councillor with no additional responsibilities	34,141	17 October 2025

(10) In Schedule 3, Part 2, item relating to Chatham Islands Council, after the item relating to Mayor, insert:

Deputy Mayor	30,678	6 November 2025
Councillor with no additional responsibilities	20,500	30 October 2025

(11) In Schedule 3, Part 2, item relating to Christchurch City Council, after the item relating to Mayor, insert:

Deputy Mayor	145,631	31 October 2025
Councillor with no additional responsibilities	126,636	17 October 2025

(12) In Schedule 3, Part 2, item relating to Far North District Council, after the item relating to Mayor, insert:

Deputy Mayor	160,007	30 October 2025
Committee Chairperson (4)	110,005	30 October 2025
Councillor with no additional responsibilities	85,700	18 October 2025

(13) In Schedule 3, Part 2, item relating to Gisborne District Council, after the item relating to Mayor, insert:

Deputy Mayor	76,525	31 October 2025
Chair Environment and Communities Committee	65,593	13 November 2025

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Chair Local Transport Committee	60,126	13 November 2025
Chair Regional Transport Committee	60,126	13 November 2025
Chair Bylaw Submissions Hearing Panel	60,126	13 November 2025
Chair Wastewater Management Committee	60,126	13 November 2025
Councillor with no additional responsibilities	54,660	18 October 2025

(14) In Schedule 3, Part 2, item relating to Grey District Council, after the item relating to Mayor, insert:

Deputy Mayor	53,036	15 November 2025
Councillor with no additional responsibilities	45,015	17 October 2025

(15) In Schedule 3, Part 2, item relating to Hastings District Council, after the item relating to Mayor, insert:

Deputy Mayor and Chair of Committee (whole Council)	100,016	12 November 2025
Chair of Committee (whole Council)	80,137	3 December 2025
Deputy Chair of Committee (whole Council) (2)	68,334	3 December 2025
Chair of Subcommittee (2)	72,062	3 December 2025
Deputy Chair of Risk and Assurance	65,228	3 December 2025
Councillor with no additional responsibilities	62,122	17 October 2025

(16) In Schedule 3, Part 2, item relating to Horowhenua District Council, after the item relating to Mayor, insert:

Deputy Mayor	66,288	30 October 2025
Chair of Risk and Assurance Committee	56,540	11 December 2025
Chair of Hearings and Regulatory Committee	52,641	11 December 2025
Chair of Community Wellbeing Committee	52,641	11 December 2025
Chair of Community Funding and Recognition Committee	48,742	11 December 2025
Member—Chief Executive Employment and Performance Committee and Procurement Review Group (not otherwise Chair of Committee)	46,792	11 December 2025
Councillor with no additional responsibilities	38,993	17 October 2025

(17) In Schedule 3, Part 2, item relating to Kaipara District Council, after the item relating to Mayor, insert:

Deputy Mayor	79,516	13 November 2026
Councillors (7)	59,516	13 November 2026

(18) In Schedule 3, Part 2, item relating to Mackenzie District Council, after the item relating to Mayor, insert:

Deputy Mayor	42,816	26 November 2026
Councillors (6)	30,000	26 November 2026

(19) In Schedule 3, Part 2, item relating to New Plymouth District Council, after the item relating to Mayor, insert:

Deputy Mayor	89,424	7 November 2025
Standing Committee Chairperson (2)	89,424	7 November 2025

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Standing Committee Deputy Chairperson (3)	74,006	11 December 2025
Councillors appointed to community boards (5)	64,756	11 December 2025
Councillor with no additional responsibilities	61,672	18 October 2025

(20) In Schedule 3, Part 2, item relating to Ōpōtiki District Council, after the item relating to Mayor, insert:

Deputy Mayor	56,533	29 October 2025
Chair, Ōpōtiki Harbour Management Committee	50,500	19 November 2025
Chair, Performance and Delivery Committee	50,500	19 November 2025
Chair, Coast Community Board	50,500	19 November 2025
Councillor with no additional responsibilities	44,500	18 October 2025

(21) In Schedule 3, Part 2, item relating to Porirua City Council, after the item relating to Mayor, insert:

Deputy Mayor	93,555	26 November 2025
Chair, Te Puna Kōrero (2)	85,759	12 December 2025
Chair, CE Employment	77,963	12 December 2025
Councillor with no additional responsibilities	72,765	17 October 2025

(22) In Schedule 3, Part 2, item relating to Queenstown–Lakes District Council, after the item relating to Mayor, insert:

Deputy Mayor	77,516	31 October 2025
Committee Chair (6)	69,000	28 November 2025
Committee Deputy Chair (4)	60,800	28 November 2025

(23) In Schedule 3, Part 2, item relating to Rangitikei District Council, after the item relating to Mayor, insert:

Deputy Mayor/Chair Assets/Infrastructure	49,585	24 October 2025
Chair of Finance/Performance Committee	42,589	28 November 2025
Chair of Policy/Planning Committee	42,589	28 November 2025
Councillor with no additional responsibilities	34,585	17 October 2025

(24) In Schedule 3, Part 2, item relating to Rotorua District Council, after the item relating to Mayor, insert:

Deputy Mayor—Deputy Chairperson Council, Deputy Chairperson Audit and Risk Committee	155,254	27 November 2025
Chairperson Infrastructure Committee	110,250	27 November 2025
Deputy Chairperson Infrastructure Committee	110,250	27 November 2025
Chairperson Te Arawa Vision 2050 Committee	88,500	27 November 2025
Deputy Chairperson Te Arawa Vision 2050 Committee	88,500	27 November 2025
Cultural Ambassador	90,000	27 November 2025
Community Ambassador	90,000	27 November 2025
Councillor with no additional responsibilities	84,000	17 October 2025

(25) In Schedule 3, Part 2, item relating to Selwyn District Council, after the item relating to Mayor, insert:

Deputy Mayor	86,515	30 October 2025
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Chairperson of Finance and Performance Committee	79,151	13 November 2025
Councillor with no additional responsibilities	73,628	17 October 2025

(26) In Schedule 3, Part 2, item relating to South Taranaki District Council, after the item relating to Mayor, insert:

Deputy Mayor	60,203	24 October 2025
Risk and Assurance Committee Member (3)	42,943	30 October 2025
Water Services Committee Chairperson	42,553	30 October 2025
Water Services Committee Member (2)	40,600	30 October 2025
Councillor with no additional responsibilities	39,039	18 October 2025

(27) In Schedule 3, Part 2, item relating to Taupo District Council, after the item relating to Mayor, insert:

Deputy Mayor and Deputy Chairperson Water Services Committee	69,321	1 November 2025
Chairperson Regulatory Committee	51,991	26 November 2025
Chairperson Chief Executive Review Committee	51,991	26 November 2025
Deputy Chairperson Risk and Assurance Committee	49,825	17 December 2025
Councillor with no additional responsibilities	43,326	18 October 2025

(28) In Schedule 3, Part 2, item relating to Thames–Coromandel District Council, after the item relating to Mayor, insert:

Deputy Mayor	85,227	1 November 2025
Councillor with no additional responsibilities	53,000	18 October 2025

(29) In Schedule 3, Part 2, item relating to Upper Hutt City Council, after the item relating to Mayor, insert:

Deputy Mayor	68,854	31 October 2025
Chair of City Planning, Infrastructure and Environment	62,886	11 December 2025
Chair of Community and Economy	61,050	11 December 2025
Chair of Regulatory Processes	52,789	11 December 2025
Chair of Hutt Valley Services (Joint) Committee	52,789	11 December 2025
Councillor with no additional responsibilities	45,902	17 October 2025

(30) In Schedule 3, Part 2, item relating to Waimakariri District Council, after the item relating to Mayor, insert:

Deputy Mayor	91,271	30 October 2025
Councillor with responsibilities (9)	71,026	5 November 2025

(31) In Schedule 3, Part 2, item relating to Waipa District Council, item relating to Deputy Chair Audit and Risk Committee, replace “Audit and Risk” with “Risk and Assurance”.

(32) In Schedule 3, Part 2, item relating to Wairoa District Council, after the item relating to Mayor, insert:

Deputy Mayor	90,243	30 October 2025
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Councillor with no additional responsibilities	59,140	18 October 2025
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(33) In Schedule 3, Part 2, item relating to Waitaki District Council, after the item relating to Mayor, insert:

Deputy Mayor	55,597	5 November 2025
Councillor and Committee Chair (5)	47,655	10 December 2025
Councillor and Committee Member or Portfolio Holder (4)	43,683	10 December 2025

(34) In Schedule 3, Part 2, item relating to Waitomo District Council, after the item relating to Mayor, insert:

Deputy Mayor	83,930	29 October 2025
Councillor with no additional responsibilities	55,953	17 October 2025

(35) In Schedule 3, Part 2, item relating to Western Bay of Plenty District Council, after the item relating to Mayor, insert:

Deputy Mayor	100,000	6 November 2025
Committee Chairperson (2)	85,000	26 November 2025
Councillor with no additional responsibilities	76,233	17 October 2025

(36) In Schedule 3, Part 2, item relating to Whanganui District Council, after the item relating to Mayor, insert:

Deputy Mayor and Deputy Chair—Council Controlled Organisation and Economic Growth	77,082	20 November 2025
Chair—Strategy and Policy and Chair—CE Performance	66,070	20 November 2025
Chair—Operations and Performance	66,070	20 November 2025
Chair Mentor	61,941	20 November 2025
Chair—Regulatory and Chair—Portfolios	61,941	20 November 2025
Deputy Chair—Strategy and Policy	61,941	26 November 2025
Deputy Co-Chair—Operations and Performance and Deputy Chair—Regulatory	61,941	26 November 2025
Deputy Co-Chair—Operations and Performance	61,941	26 November 2025
Deputy Chair—Risk and Assurance	60,564	26 November 2025
Councillor with no additional responsibilities	55,058	17 October 2025

Dated at Wellington this 24th day of February 2026.

 Chairperson.

 Member.

 Member.

Explanatory memorandum

This memorandum is not part of the determination but is intended to indicate its general effect.

This determination is deemed to have come into force on 12 October 2025, which was the day after the date of the close of polling for the 2025 local elections, except for *clause 4(7)*, which comes into force later. This determination amends the Local Government Elected Members (2025/26) Determination 2025 (the **principal determination**), which covers the period from 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026.

After the 2025 local elections, each council was required to provide the Remuneration Authority (the **Authority**) with a proposal on how its governance remuneration pool, which must be fully allocated, should be distributed among its councillors (excluding the mayor or regional council chairperson). The proposal includes the council's recommended remuneration rates for their councillors who hold positions with additional responsibilities (such as deputy mayor, committee chairperson, portfolio leader, etc) and for their councillors with no additional responsibilities.

The Authority considered the proposal received from each council before determining the remuneration payable to their individual councillors.

The Authority's decisions are backdated as follows:

- the remuneration for councillors with no additional responsibilities takes effect on and from the day after the date of the official result of the 2025 local elections was declared under section 86 of the Local Electoral Act 2001 for their council; and
- the remuneration for councillors who hold positions with additional responsibilities takes effect,—
 - in the case of a mayor using their powers under section 41A(3) of the Local Government Act 2002, on and from the day after the date on

which the mayor appointed the deputy mayor and chair(s) of each council committee; or

- on and from the day after the date on which the council resolved or agreed their proposal for submitting to the Authority.

Those effective dates are set out in the third column of Schedule 3 of the principal determination.

This determination implements the Authority's decisions for those councils that were unable to submit their proposals to the Authority in time to be considered and included in the Local Government Elected Members (2025/26) Amendment Determination (No 2) 2025, which was made on 17 December 2025.

In addition, this determination applies a small number of amendments, which were made at the request of individual local authorities, to the principal determination.

Of note, Auckland Council requested that the Authority consider making an interim remuneration determination under clause 6 of Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002, in respect of the remaining 3 members of the Ōtara–Papatoetoe Local Board (the **Board**). This request arises from genuinely exceptional and temporary circumstances following a District Court's decision in December 2025 to void the election result for the Papatoetoe subdivision of the Board. This has reduced the number of members on the Board from 7 to 3 members until a new local election is held in 2026.

The Board is now in an inquorate state and without the ability to elect a chairperson or deputy chairperson. As a result, the remaining members are carrying responsibilities that are materially different from, and substantially greater than, those ordinarily associated with the role of a local board member. The Authority has recognised this and has determined remuneration for the Board's interim positions of Lead Member—Governance and Co-ordination and Enhanced Member Role—Additional Representative Responsibilities.

The remuneration for those roles applies from 21 January 2026 (*see clause 4(6)*) and will end (*see clauses 2(2) and 4(7)*) on the earliest of the day after the date on which either:

- the official result for the Papatoetoe Subdivision of the Board's election is declared; or
- the Auckland High Court delivers a decision with the effect of reinstating the previously disqualified members for the Papatoetoe Subdivision of the Board.