

ATTACHMENT 1

Chief Executive Officer
Port Phillip Council

4 March 2009

Dear Sir,

Re: Councillor Allowances – Call for Public Comment

I wish to respond to a call for comments on the proposed change in allowances for the mayor and the councillors.

It is my opinion that, since the remuneration levels are determined by the State Government on the basis of the workload and responsibilities, the councillors should be entitled to and should receive the full amount of such allowances.

I base my opinion on a simple fact that any demand for reduction in the payable allowances would be showing the Residents' distrust in the Council and would, more or less, imply a satisfaction with proportionally less than full effort and dedication on the part of our elected representatives.

Yours faithfully,

Chris Hau


[REDACTED]

ATTACHMENT 2

[REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, 5 March 2009 12:09 PM

To: Allowances

Subject: public comment on proposal to detirminethe mayoral & councillors allowances

It is not appropriate to alter the allowances upwards at the moment. It is now official that the economy is going backwards. We are in a long term severe depression. The Council will experience extreme financial hardship and it will have to reduce spending in many areas and freeze spending in other areas. Globally and Nationally most people have lost wealth and many people are losing their jobs. In the circumstances it is financially reckless to propose an increase in allowances. In it's review the Council should detirmine that those payments remain at their current levels.

Ian Munro
[REDACTED]

ATTACHMENT 3

Sent: Tuesday, 31 March 2009 8:11 AM
To: Allowances
Subject: Councillor Allowance Submission

To whom it may concern.

I note that currently the Mayor's salary is \$84, 257 p.a + Councillor's salary is \$26,378 p.a.

As I previously voted on an increase to Councillor's wages.. again I do same.

I believe that Councillors do a tremendous amount of work and devote extensive hours to public duty, above and beyond their Salary remuneration, and believe the salary of \$26,378 – is not commensurate with current standards of hours, nor even commensurate with an administration Salary.

In this day and age – with so many issues regarding building and planning in our precinct, which did not exist in previous times.. that much of their time is devoted to 'battling' overpopulation and it's associated problems, and fighting state government over irresponsible and bad planning.

Therefore – I submit that Councillor's salaries should be raised to at least match those of 'planners'. I also submit that each Councillor submit 'their hours on duty' be recorded – to ascertain their real hourly rate, also to ensure some Councillors who are working more hours be paid accordingly, and in this modern era (since amalgamation)– we need to attract quality people who can and will do the hard yards. People who represent their constituents and who have the ability and are willing to fight Government on 'Democratic' and serious issues.

I also read that some staff were receiving in excess of \$100,000 p.a and wondering which roles they are in and perhaps their salaries could be lowered to ensure Councillors receive more.

I am not sure that the Mayor does much more than Councillors and perhaps could be in line with Councillor salaries.

Thanking you.
Jenny Webb

Should you require contact with me – please feel free to do so.

07/04/2009

[REDACTED]

Chief Executive Officer
Port Phillip Council
"Councillor Allowances Submission"
Private Bag 3
PO St Kilda Vic 3182

Dear Sir/Madam,

Councillor Allowances Submission

I hope that my late submission can be considered – I misread the advertisement deadline for 24 April and have been interstate.

I support payment of maximum allowances to our mayor and councillors, and further am interested in lobbying for payment of full salaries to all local government representatives, commensurate with remuneration to other levels of government. I hope to make representation at the next VEC review.

I argue for this so that local government, a cornerstone of democracy, can attract very competent people. With terms of four years and expenses-only pay, only a limited few can donate their time to this very important office.

The work of mayors and councilors is demanding and full-time. The community expects high levels of performance.

I have taken up the issue in a letter to the local paper and will continue to support implementing full salaries at every opportunity.

Yours faithfully,

Susan Humphries

[REDACTED]