Item 4.3

Council Submission - Local Government Remuneration Tribunal - 2027 Annual Review – Stage 1 – Comment on Local Government NSW Submission

File No: S095194.009

Memorandum by the Chief Executive Officer

To Council:

The Local Government Remuneration Tribunal (the Tribunal) is required to make an annual determination, on the fees payable to Councillors and Mayors in accordance with section 241 of the Local Government Act 1993 (the Act).

Under the Act, the Tribunal's role is to determine the categories of councils and mayoral offices in NSW, place each council and mayoral office into one of the categories it has determined (at least once every 3 years), and on an annual basis set the minimum and maximum fees payable to councillors and mayors in each category.

The 2027 review is being undertaken in 2 stages. In Stage 1, the Tribunal will review the categories and criteria specified in the Determination: ss 239 and 240 of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW).

Council endorsed the City of Sydney Stage 1 submission on 26 October 2026. Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Arkins also provided a verbal submission to the Tribunal on 30 October 2026.

As part of Stage 1 of the 2027 Annual Review, the Tribunal received submissions from Local Government NSW (LGNSW) and Wollondilly Shire Council proposing a new approach to the categorisation of NSW Councils, together with proposed Mayoral and Councillor fees for the new categories proposed.

Given the changes which those submissions urged, the Tribunal directed that they be served on all Councils and LGNSW, in order that they could consider whether they wished to be heard about either proposal.

The City has no comments on the Wollondilly Shire Council submission.

The City proposes providing comments supporting the LGNSW submission.

The LGNSW submission (similar to the City of Sydney submission) notes that the current framework and fees applied to Councillors and Mayors in NSW does not and cannot provide just fee outcomes in its current form. The LGNSW submission provides that Category I (Principal City) should continue to apply only to the City of Sydney Council, consistent with the current treatment of Sydney and Melbourne in their respective jurisdictions. This recognises Council's unique economic and social character and its domestic and international significance.

Note that the Tribunal has advised that submissions are to be endorsed by their respective council.

Council endorsed submissions are required to be provided to the Tribunal by 27 November 2026.

Recommendation

It is resolved that Council endorse the submission to the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal regarding comments on the Local Government NSW submission as shown at Attachment A to the subject memorandum.

MONICA BARONE PSM

Chief Executive Officer

Attachment A. Council Submission - Local Government Remuneration Tribunal - 2027 Annual Review - Stage 1 - Comment on Local Government NSW Submission

Attachment B. Local Government NSW Submission - Local Government Remuneration Tribunal - 2027 Annual Review - Stage 1

Attachment C. Wollondilly Shire Council Submission - Local Government Remuneration Tribunal - 2027 Annual Review - Stage 1