Allowances for local government members

Elected Members of Selwyn District Council may be entitled to receive allowances while working on local authority business.

Vehicle Kilometre Allowance

A member's travel is eligible for the allowance if the member:

- is not provided with a motor vehicle by the Selwyn District Council;
- · is travelling in a private vehicle;
- · is on local authority business; and
- is taking the most direct route that is reasonable in the circumstances

If a member of Selwyn District Council travels from a place where the member permanently or temporarily resides that is outside the local authority area, the member is only eligible for a vehicle-kilometre allowance for eligible travel after the member crosses the boundary of Selwyn District.

The allowance payable to a member for eligible travel is based on the rates included in the Local Authority Determination applicable to the financial year.

Travel Time Allowance

Elected members may claim an allowance for travelling within New Zealand on local authority business.

The current rate is \$40.00 per hour for eligible travel that meets the criteria.

Eligibility

The allowance is available each day for any business:

- · on behalf of the council or board, or
- between the member's residence and an office of the council or board.

The allowance is not available for overseas travel.

The Mayor cannot claim the travel time allowance because their role is deemed to be full time and they are remunerated accordingly.



Criteria

A claim can be made if the journey is:

- · between one hour and nine hours long within a 24 hour period, and
- is taken by the quickest form of transport reasonable in the circumstances.

The first hour of the journey is not covered by the allowance.

An elected member of a local authority who resides outside the Selwyn District boundary and travels to the Selwyn District area on local authority business is eligible for a travel time allowance in respect of eligible travel time only after the member crosses the boundary of the Selwyn District area after the first hour of eligible travel within the Selwyn District area.

ICT Allowance

No allowance is payable to members of the Selwyn District Council due to the fact that the Selwyn District Council provides each elected member with a:

- · phone;
- · computer, tablet and/or a laptop
- printer/scanner

The equipment remains the property of Selwyn District Council and is replaced/updated at least every 3 to 5 years.

Childcare Allowance

Elected members can claim up to \$6,000 per year for each child if the childcare meets the below criteria.

Eligibility

Elected members are eligible for the allowance if:

- · they are engaged on local authority business at the time of the childcare;
- they are the parent or guardian of the child, or usually has day-to-day responsibility for care of the child; and
- · the child is under 14 years of age.

Criteria

The childcare must be provided by someone who:

- is not a spouse, civil union partner, or de facto partner of the member;
- is not a parent of the child;
- does not ordinarily reside with the member or child.

Elected members must provide satisfactory evidence to the Selwyn District Council of the amount paid for childcare.

