

Submission from the Tawa Community Board on the Remuneration Authority's Discussion Document 'Review of Local Authority Remuneration Setting'

Remuneration Review September 2011

In terms of remuneration, the Tawa Community Board believes that the current pool system provokes a conflict between councillors and community board members. The current pools system requires that at least 50% of community board members' remuneration is paid out of the pool. This reduces the amount available to pay councillors' remuneration and could be a reason for them to recommend that community boards be disestablished.

A fairer system would be the setting of two pools, one for councillors and the other for community board members.

We also believe that consideration should be given to higher remuneration for the deputy chair. The role of deputy chair is, in our experience, more time-consuming than that of an ordinary member. When the chair is unavailable it is usually the deputy who fills in and attends various meetings and functions. Regular consultation between the chair and deputy also means the deputy chair has a higher workload than ordinary members.

Accordingly some recognition should be given to this factor in terms of remuneration.

As stated on the Wellington City Council website, "This elected community board represents the interests of the Tawa Community. The board reflects the unique history and requirements of the area and helps Wellington City Council to understand and meet the community's needs."

The Tawa Community Board was established for specific historical reasons and serves a unique community of interest. It has wide support in the local community, as was evidenced when a representation review was last undertaken in 2006.

Malcolm Sparrow
Chair, Tawa Community Board

8 November 2011