To Whom It May Concern

Please accept the comment below in relation to Recommendation 5.4 Local Governments may pay Superannuation for Elected Members.

Bev and Charles Dornan

Comment
We are strongly opposed to this recommendation as it is wholly inconsistent with the meaning of 'superannuation' in Australia and the voluntary nature of performing Councillor duties.

The Australian Tax Office defines Superannuation as follows

What is superannuation?
Superannuation, or 'super', is money put aside by your employer over your working life for you to live on when you retire from work.[our emphasis]

Elected members are not employees or 'workers' as defined in both state and federal industrial relations legislation.

Such a ridiculous proposal would have enormous implications for the regulatory framework not only in the local government sphere but also, with respect to industrial legislation, minimum conditions of work legislation, provision of parental leave, workers compensation and taxation law. This recommendation should not be supported.