

TITLE:	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY		
DIRECTORATE:	COUNCIL		
ADOPTED BY:	COUNCIL RESOLUTION - OM-23/136		
DATE OF ADOPTION:	September 2023	DATE OF REVIEW:	September 2028
POLICY NUMBER:	CP72		
LEGISLATIVE REF:	<i>Regulation 68 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021</i> NT Remuneration Tribunal, Determination of allowances for members of Local Government Councils.		

PURPOSE

To identify the types of training or conferences, that may be attended or undertaken by a Council Member using the professional development allowance.

2. PRINCIPLE

Council is committed to recognising the most appropriate types of conferences and training opportunities that enable a Council Member to develop capabilities in the Member's role.

3. APPLICATION OF POLICY

All staff will be trained in this policy and it will be published on the Barkly Regional Council website at <https://www.barkly.nt.gov.au/council-documents/policies>

3.1 Professional Development Allowance per year

Councillors including the principal member have a professional development allowance is \$4000 per person, per financial year.

Total amount claimable each year is the total of two years, being based on an annual allowance, plus on year drawn in advance or one year's remaining balance of the previous year. Maximum amount claimable by any Councillor is the total sum of one year for each year the Councillor's elected term.

3.2 Types of Conference and Training

The professional development allowance may be expended in relation to attending or undertaking the following types of conference and training within the Northern Territory or facilitated online. Any course or professional development activity must be specifically related to the role of the Councillor and be approved by the Council.

- (a) The AICD Company's director Course;
- (b) mandatory training relevant to being a Council Member;
- (c) Professional development activities delivered by LGANT

- (d) course of study or other training course relevant to performance as a Council Member;
- (e) training, mediation, or counselling recommended or ordered as part of a decision relating to a Code of Conduct complaint.
- (f) training, mediation, or counselling recommended by the Mayor or CEO; or
- (g) a conference, seminar, symposium, expo or other similar event on a topic or function related to local government.

3.3 High-Cost Training Courses

If a Council Member is attending a training course that exceeds the professional development allowance available in the current financial year:

- (a) any remaining professional development allowance in the current financial year is to be expended to partially pay for the training course; and
- (b) the outstanding cost of the training course may be expended against the professional development allowance of the Council Member in future financial years (only within the term of the Council).

Expenditure of the professional development allowance in future financial years will only be done on a reimbursement basis to a Council Member proof of completion for each stage of the course is required before the further payments can be claimed.

Access to reimbursement is subject to:

- (a) the Council Member remaining to be a Council Member in the future financial year(s) when a claim for reimbursement is made; and
- (b) any changes in the maximum amount of professional development allowance available in the future financial year(s) (which may reduce the reimbursement amount available).

4. Review

This policy will be reviewed on or before September 2028.

5. APPROVAL

This policy is approved.

Romeo Mutsago
**Deputy Chief Executive
Officer**



Signature

5/10/2023

Dated