McAnthur



2014-15 Local Government National Remuneration Survey

2012/2 NATIONAL REMUNERATION SURVEY

Marthur

The Most Comprehensive Salary Guide for Local Government

# 2020 - 2021 LOCAL GOVERNMENT

20th

McAnthur

#### NATIONAL REMUNERATION SURVEY

Edition

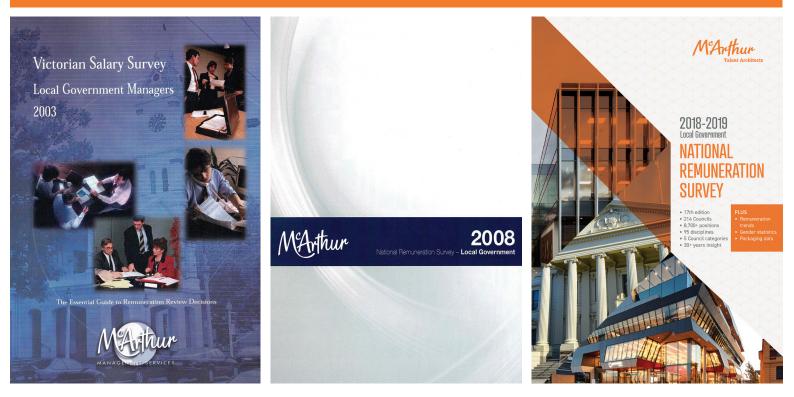
# MArthur Talent Architects

# 2021-2022 / LOCAL GOVERNMENT NATIONAL REMUNERATION SURVEY

- + 209 Councils
- + 11,950 plus positions
- + 95 disciplines
- + 30 plus years of insight

#### PLUS

- + Remuneration trends
- **Gender statistics**
- + Packaging data



## INTRODUCTION

After two years of unprecedented upheaval and uncertainty, most economists and analysts are predicting that the initial blueprint of the 'new normal' for Australian workplaces will start to rapidly emerge in 2022. Hybrid work scenarios, increased focus on employee well-being, and training and development will lead the agenda for what is widely being will labelled 'the year of the employee'.

While the outlook is certainly positive and encouraging, there are still some key challenges for employers, including Local Government, to contend with. Skill shortages, high employment rates and the Reserve Bank predicting wage growth to hit its fastest pace in a decade, all mean that informed data and insight have never been more important to effective HR planning.

This year, we are pleased to say that the 20th edition of our remuneration report has data provided from 209 councils reporting on 11,950+ positions across 6 council categories. The 2021/2022 report delivers a broad range of critical information which helps support both operational and strategic business decision-making, while delivering data and analysis-based insights allowing councils to:

- Develop accurate, market-competitive reward and recognition structures based on key benchmarking criteria,
- Support more effective talent sourcing and deliver improved ROI across all key recruitment activities,
- Build effective talent retention strategies founded on the right insight and market intelligence.

Thank you to all councils who took the time to be part of this important research, particularly during a year where I am sure priorities lay elsewhere. Without your ongoing support we simply could not deliver the level of reporting the sector has come to expect. As usual, all participating councils will receive a complimentary copy of the report. **This year, as part of an ongoing commitment to sustainable business practice, we have provided the report in digital format.** All participating councils will have received a link to an interactive report and also a PDF version which can easily be downloaded.

With McArthur, you can be confident we will continue to develop the depth and relevance of both our data and subsequent analysis to help ensure you have the insight to make the best possible decisions, especially at a time when uncertainty and evolving change are driving key workforce agendas.

In the meantime, specialist McArthur Talent Architects consultants are available to discuss the report and your wider remuneration strategy objectives in more detail.

All the best for 2022.

#### Matthew M<sup>c</sup>Arthur

Chief Executive Officer



## OVERVIEW OF THE 2021 / 2022 SURVEY

The 2021 / 2022 National Remuneration Survey for Local Government attracted data from 209 councils nationally covering 11,951 positions across four tiers of management. The size of councils that participated ranged from those with recurrent expenditure budgets exceeding \$480 million to those with budgets of less than \$3.5 million. Staff numbers ranged from less than 20 to more than 1,600, and populations from below 300 to over 450,000.

Over the previous two years we increased the number of council categories from five to six as a consequence of variations in the size of councils due to growth over the past fifteen years and the impact of amalgamations and, the substantial number of participating councils with expenditure budgets below \$30 million. In this year's survey, we have again updated council classifications to reflect their Category based on current Annual Recurrent Expenditure, Rate Income, Population and Staff numbers.

The following table provides a summary of participating councils by Category.

Council Category	Annual Recurrent Expenditure	No. of Councils
Category 1	Greater than \$160 Million	39
Category 2	\$100M - \$160 Million	28
Category 3	\$60M - \$100 Million	30
Category 4	\$30M - \$60 Million	46
Category 5	\$15M - \$30 Million	36
Category 6	Less than \$15 Million	30

Nationally, remuneration levels varied significantly across the various Management Levels. The following tables show the range of remuneration paid to four management levels across each of the council categories.

Category 1		Count	Range		Average
Level			High	Low	
1	Chief Executive Officer / General Manager	39	526,000	335,000	419,730
2	Directors / Group Managers	189	369,000	191,000	284,226
3	Managers	813	333,000	130,000	196,887
4	Coordinator / Team Leader	2,923	248,000	76,000	129,019

Category 2		Count	Range		Average
Level			High	Low	
1	Chief Executive Officer / General Manager	27	474,000	300,000	370,843
2	Directors / Group Managers	118	350,000	166,000	263,264
3	Managers	464	283,000	110,000	181,609
4	Coordinator / Team Leader	2,186	223,000	78,000	106,389

Category 3		Count	Range		Average
Level			High	Low	
1	Chief Executive Officer / General Manager	30	389,000	236,000	315,931
2	Directors / Group Managers	111	307,000	150,000	227,989
3	Managers	376	235,000	107,000	162,820
4	Coordinator / Team Leader	970	175,500	71,000	112,767

## **OVERVIEW** OF THE 2020 / 2021 SURVEY

Category 4		Count	Range		Average
Level			High	Low	
1	Chief Executive Officer / General Manager	46	392,000	228,000	283,846
2	Directors / Group Managers	148	284,000	124,000	198,647
3	Managers	477	225,500	91,000	142,659
4	Coordinator / Team Leader	1,672	189,000	70,000	93,312

Category 5		Count	Range		Average
Level			High	Low	
1	Chief Executive Officer / General Manager	35	328,000	193,000	250,668
2	Directors / Group Managers	120	231,500	117,500	168,750
3	Managers	325	218,000	84,500	117,907
4	Coordinator / Team Leader	475	178,000	68,000	87,903

Category 6		Count	Range		Average
Level			High	Low	
1	Chief Executive Officer / General Manager	29	260,500	170,000	205,223
2	Directors / Group Managers	74	181,500	105,500	141,083
3	Managers	101	160,000	80,500	99,545
4	Coordinator / Team Leader	203	125,000	64,000	74,780

The value of Remuneration packages within the current survey period revealed significant fluctuations across all job families when compared to previous years.

At the Chief Executive / General Manager level, the overall average increase in packages across all council categories was 0.95% representing a slight decrease over the previous year where the average increase was 1.65%, and a more significant variation against the 2017 increase of 4.0%. Positions within Category 2 councils received the highest increase (4.27%) while those in Category 1 experienced an increase of 2.18%. Positions within all other categories received less generous increases with those in Category 3 realising a decline of 2.64%.

Across all job families, Level 2 positions realised an average increase below CPI of 1.62% across all council categories with those in Category 2 achieving the highest increase of 2.71%. Positions within all other categories realised more moderate increases below 2% with those in Category 3 falling into negative territory. Within specific disciplines, Human Resources achieved the highest increase of 2.61% followed by Corporate Services with an increase of 2.10%. All other disciplines received increases below 1.5%

Positions at Level 3 achieved an average increase above CPI of 3.15% across all council categories with those in Category 6 achieving the highest increase of 5.63%. Within specific disciplines, Regulatory / Statutory Services achieved the highest increase of 4.53% while all other job families realised lesser increases marginally below CPI.

With an average of 1.73% across all council categories, level 4 positions within Category 5 received the highest increase of 7.54%, followed by those within Category 6 (3.77%). With the exception of Category 1, positions within all other categories failed to achieve positive results. Within specific disciplines, positions within Engineering Services were the only ones to achieve an increase relatively similar to CPI (2.87%). Positions within all other job families received increases below 1.75%.

Nationally the CPI figure (all groups) for September 2020 to September 2021 was 3.0%.