Policy Name	Staff Travel
Policy Type	Human Resources
Policy Number	HR22
Version	3
Approval Date	January 2019
Renewal Date	January 2022



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## **POLICY STATEMENT**

If you travel as part of your work with West Daly Regional Council, Council will ensure you are not out-of-pocket for all reasonable expenses.

#### **USE OF PRIVATE VEHICLE**

If you are required to travel on behalf of the Council, or to travel away from your usual place of work to cover for another team member, or to undertake special duties, you are allowed to either:

- Claim reimbursement for actual expenses incurred, or
- Claim a travel allowance in respect of accommodation, meals and incidental expenses.

Claims for reimbursement can only be made after you have incurred the relevant expenditure. You need to keep receipts to substantiate your claim.

A claim for travel allowance must be made before commencement of the travel, or as soon as practicable after commencement of the travel. It will be paid at the relevant ATO rates.

For the purposes of this policy, you are considered to be travelling if you are required to travel 300 Km or more from your usual place of work, or the nature of your duties requires you to stay overnight in temporary accommodation.

## MINIMUM STANDARDS OF ACCOMMODATION

You will be provided with accommodation that is at least consistent with the 3-star rating used in RACQ/NRMA/RACV/AANT etc. accommodation directories, except where this standard in not available in a particular location. Accommodation costs should be limited to a maximum of the ATO rates, unless special circumstances exist.

## **LIMITS ON MEALS**

You are limited to actual and reasonable meal costs, provided the meals are not excessive. The reimbursement per meal is limited to the maximum of the approved ATO rate. You are not entitled to expenses or meal allowance for meals that are provided at Councils expense or as part of a fare, such as meals on a plane. You will not be reimbursed for alcoholic beverages or items from a mini bar.

## **INCIDENTAL EXPENSES**

Official telephone calls, faxes, internet access and postage costs will be paid by Council.

Other incidental expenses such as newspapers, magazines, coffee etc., private telephone calls or personal items necessary for trave will be covered through payment of the incidental allowance at ATO rates. This amount is payable in respect of any day on which you travel as part of your work.

## **EXPENSES AND TRAVEL ALLOWANCE FORMS**

You must claim reimbursement of expenses using an Expenses Form and attach copies of any receipts. In some instance it may not be possible to obtain a receipt, in which case a statutory declaration needs to be completed with the details and the nature of the expenditure. The statutory declaration must be signed and submitted with the reimbursement claim.

Travel allowance will be entered into TechOne and submitted by Darwin Office administration assistant on behalf of each staff member. The CEO or delegate will approve all travel.

#### **APPROVALS**

All travel must be approved by your manager before commencement of travel.

Following travel, the confirmation page of the Travel Allowance must be completed, submitted and approved.

# TERMINOLOGY AND REFERENCES

## **REFERENCES**

Local Government Industry Award 2010 Local Government Act Australian Taxation Office

## **FURTHER INFORMATION:**

Human Resources Advisor