



LG 04/2018

31 October 2018

## Domestic subsistence allowances for elected members

Dear Chief Executive,

I am directed by the Minister for Local Government and Electoral Reform to inform you that the rates of domestic subsistence allowance for elected members of local authorities have been revised. This follows a revision of the standard civil service domestic subsistence rates by the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform.

With effect from 1 October 2018 the standard overnight rate has been increased while both day rates remain unchanged. The revised rates are as set out below:

Overnight rate	Day Rates	
€	Absence of seven hours or more (€)	Absence of three hours or more but less than seven hours (€)
147.00	33.61	14.01

A Vouched Accommodation ("VA") rate continues to apply where difficulties are encountered in sourcing suitable accommodation in Dublin within the standard rate. In such cases, a Vouched Accommodation Rate consisting of the vouched costs of accommodation up to a limit of the standard overnight rate (€147.00) plus €33.61.

Elected members may from time to time be authorised by the elected council to attend seminars, conferences and training events which are relevant to the work of local government and may receive payments of travel and subsistence expenses for this purpose. Section 142 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended, sets out the arrangements for such authorisation, which is a reserved function. It is the





responsibility of each individual to ensure their full and proper attendance at the events concerned.

The rules concerning travel and subsistence expenses allowances for elected members remain as set out in the directions issued by the Minister under section 142 of the 2001 Act (see previous circular LG 01/2018). A copy of the current directions, taking account of the revised domestic subsistence rates set out in this circular, is enclosed for convenience (Appendix I).

This circular should be brought to the attention of all elected members in your local authority as well as relevant employees who process travel and subsistence claims.

Enquiries concerning travel and subsistence for elected members may be addressed to Grant Couper ([grant.couper@housing.gov.ie](mailto:grant.couper@housing.gov.ie)) or Gary McGuinn ([gary.mcguinn@housing.gov.ie](mailto:gary.mcguinn@housing.gov.ie)).

Yours sincerely,

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Gary McGuinn  
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Local Government and Oversight Section

For the attention of: the Chief Executive of each local authority

Cc: AILG, LAMA

