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## CIRCULAR 19 / 2016

**FROM : CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

**TO : MUNICIPAL MANAGERS**

**DATE : 17 AUGUST 2016**

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### REMUNERATION OF MUNICIPAL COUNCILLORS

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SALGA has received a number of enquiries regarding the date from which newly elected councillors need to be paid from, and in effect, when the term of outgoing councillors come to an end.

Section 26 of the Local Government: Municipal Structures Act, 1998 provides as follows:

#### **26. Term of office of councillors**

(1) A person-

- (a) *is elected as a member of a municipal council for a period ending when the next council is declared elected; or*
- (b) *is appointed as a representative of a local council to a district council for a period ending when the next council is declared elected.*

(2) *A person assumes office as a councillor when declared elected or when appointed, as the case may be.*

From the aforesaid, it is clear that a person assumes office as a councillor when declared elected or when appointed. All councillors, ward councillors as well as proportional representation councillors, were declared elected vide General Notice 483 published in Government Gazette 40198 of 10 August 2016. All newly elected councillors therefore assumes duty on 10 August 2016 and need to be paid from the said date. The term of the outgoing councillors therefore ended accordingly.

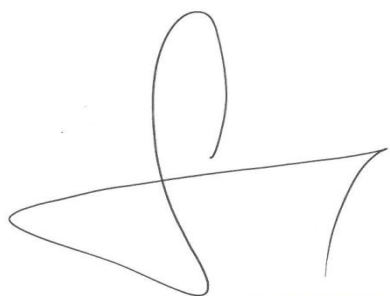
Kindly note that from the said date all councillors are paid as ordinary councillors and full time and executive councillors will be entitled to the remuneration aligned to the specific position from the date they are elected in the specific position. The same principle applies to councillors

representing their local municipality in the district council. Such councillors will become a councillor in the district council on the day so appointed or elected by the local municipality.

SALGA is aware that the newly established and reconfigured municipalities may experience challenges with regard to the grading of municipalities for purposes of councillor remuneration, and COGTA has been consulted in this regard. We were informed that COGTA, National Treasury and Statistics South Africa are attending to determining the population and total municipal income for the said municipalities. We will follow up on the process and keep the affected municipalities informed of developments.

It is trusted that the aforesaid clarifies the aspect of councillor remuneration.

Yours in developmental local government,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized loop on the left and a horizontal line extending to the right, ending in a small upward curve.

**XOLILE GEORGE**  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**