

# German Shepherd Dog Council of Australia



W: [gsdcouncilaustralia.org](http://gsdcouncilaustralia.org) E: [secretary@gsdcouncilaustralia.org](mailto:secretary@gsdcouncilaustralia.org)

---

30 July 2024

Dear Secretaries, Registrars and members

Earlier in the year I was contacted by Dr Roger Lavelle on behalf of the Radiologists who read and score the hip and elbow x-rays for our GSDCA HD and ED control schemes. Roger has brought it to my attention that the rate of reimbursement that we currently pay to the radiologists has fallen substantially behind what they are paid to read for the Dogs Australia Canine Hip and Elbow Dysplasia Scheme (CHEDS) and some other Breed schemes. Despite small yearly increases in line with the CPI, our rates are currently less than 60% of the reimbursement they receive from CHEDS, and they have asked that we review our scale of payments to address this inequitable situation.

Following discussions with Dr Lavelle which I relayed to the Executive, he proposed that they would accept a \$20 increase immediately (which would address approximately half of their current shortfall), to be followed by a further review around the middle of next year. Obviously without these radiologists reading for us we would have no scheme, and I don't believe we have any option other than to accept what I consider to be a reasonable request. The Executive has agreed that we should increase the payments to the radiologists for Hip and Elbow x-rays by nett \$20, effective from 1<sup>st</sup> August 2024 (in lieu of the annual CPI increase due on that date).

To avoid the Council being out of pocket, it is logical that we will also need to increase the charges to our members for a hip and elbow contract by the same amount (i.e. \$20 increase for hips and elbows, or \$10 each for hips or elbows only). This would place our charge for a GSDCA Hip & Elbow contract at just under \$100, which compares to \$130 now charged by CHEDS (including the recently imposed \$10 levy to Dogs Australia) and keeps our cost to members substantially below that of the CHEDS scheme.

I stress that this increase is due solely to the increase in reimbursements requested by the radiologists and is completely unrelated to the introduction of the new digital platform for applications and submissions to the HD/ED scheme.

Kind regards

*Ian*

**Ian urie** | National Breed Commission Chair

German Shepherd Dog Council of Australia Inc

P.O. Box 2080, Howrah Tasmania 7018

☎: Mobile: 0418175727



---

Honorary Secretary  
P.O Box 2080 Howrah 7018  
Mobile: 044851870

Patron: Mrs Dawn Fraser AC MBE  
Associate: Australian National Kennel Council (ANKC)  
Member: World Union of German Shepherd Dog Associations (WUSV)  
ABN 25 515 310 063

Email: [secretary@gsdcouncilaustralia.org](mailto:secretary@gsdcouncilaustralia.org)