



No. 12 of 2025

REPORT OF THE REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL

2025 Review of Common Allowance for Members of the Parliament of South Australia

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The Remuneration Tribunal (**Tribunal**) has conducted a review of Determination 7 of 2024, which provides for a Common Allowance for Members of the Parliament of South Australia.
2. As explained in this report, the Tribunal has determined to increase the two components of the Common Allowance in Determination 7 of 2024. The first component, which compensates Members for the loss of travel entitlements, will increase by 2.4%. The second component, payable to Members of Parliament for ordinary service on parliamentary committees, will increase by 2.7%.
3. The increased allowance applies from 1 December 2025.

BACKGROUND

1. The *Parliamentary Remuneration Act 1990 (SA)* (**PR Act**) provides that the Tribunal has jurisdiction to set the Common Allowance for Members of the South Australian Parliament pursuant to section 4AA of the PR Act.
2. As required by section 4AA(3) of the PR Act, the Tribunal has conducted an annual review of the Common Allowance. It forms part of the Basic Salary of Members of Parliament pursuant to section 4AB of the PR Act.
3. Section 4AA of the PR Act provides that there are two components to the Common Allowance. The first is an amount of remuneration that reasonably compensates Members of Parliament for the abolition of the annual travel allowance, metrocard special pass and subsidised or free interstate rail travel that applied prior to 2015. The second component is an amount payable to all Members of Parliament for their service as ordinary members on parliamentary committees.
4. The PR Act provides that the aggregated amount of the two components cannot exceed \$42,000.

THE REVIEW PROCESS

5. On 9 October 2025, in accordance with sections 10(2) and 10(4) of the *Remuneration Act 1990 (SA)* (**Act**), the Tribunal wrote to and invited submissions by 30 October in respect of this review from:

- a. the Honourable Premier of South Australia – as the Minister responsible for the Act who may make submissions or introduce evidence on any question relevant to the public interest;
 - b. Members of Parliament;
 - c. the Treasurer; and
 - d. the Independent Commissioner Against Corruption.
6. The Tribunal also placed a notice on its website from 9 October 2025 inviting submissions from affected persons by 30 October 2025.
 7. On 10 October 2025, the Independent Commissioner Against Corruption confirmed that no submission would be made.
 8. On 20 October 2025, the Premier’s representative confirmed that no submission would be made.
 9. No further submissions were received.

CONSIDERATION AND CONCLUSION

10. The Tribunal is not able to alter the basis of the Common Allowance or its component parts.
11. The current Common Allowance comprises the following amounts as set out in Determination 7 of 2024:
 - a. The amount of remuneration as reasonable compensation for the abolition of the annual travel allowance, metrocard special pass and subsidised or free interstate rail travel is \$20,503 per annum.
 - b. The amount of remuneration payable to all Members of Parliament for service as ordinary members on parliamentary committees is \$15,034 per annum.
12. These amounts total \$35,537 per annum.
13. In accordance with section 4AA(3) of the PR Act the Tribunal may, if it considers it appropriate to do so, determine to increase an amount of remuneration payable by a specified amount.
14. Consistent with the previous approach of the Tribunal, the first component of the Common Allowance should be recognised to be a reimbursement of the previous travel benefits that applied before 2015. Separately, the second component of the Common Allowance, is considered as being more directly related to normal remuneration payments.
15. As in previous determinations, Tribunal has had regard to the changes to the Consumer Price Index (All Groups Adelaide) (**CPI**) and the Australian Bureau of Statistics Wage Price Index (Public Sector South Australia) (**WPI**) since the last review when considering any increase to the Common Allowance.
16. The Tribunal is mindful of ensuring that the first component continues to compensate Members of the Parliament for the loss of the travel entitlements. Accordingly, the Tribunal has determined to increase that component of the Common Allowance by CPI being 2.4%.
17. The Tribunal has also determined to increase the second component of the Common Allowance by the WPI increase for the year to September 2025 being 2.7%.

18. The Tribunal has provided differential calculations to the two components that constitute the Common Allowance. The breakdown of the two components is provided for in the accompanying determination.
19. This review therefore increases the total amount of the Common Allowance to \$36,435 per annum from 1 December 2025.
20. The aggregated amount continues to move closer to the statutory limit of \$42,000. In the absence of any amending legislation, the Tribunal notes it will not be able to fully exercise its jurisdiction once the Common Allowance amount reaches \$42,000.
21. As stated in Report 8 of 2023, The Tribunal understands from the second reading speech for the Amending Act that the statutory limit of \$42,000 was in 2015 the amount by which the Commonwealth Basic Salary exceeded the State Basic Salary. Consideration may need to be given to the statutory limit to ensure that future reviews of the Tribunal are not impacted.
22. The Determination giving effect to this Report will come into effect on 1 December 2025.



Matthew O'Callaghan
PRESIDENT



Donny Walford
MEMBER



Mark Young
MEMBER

Dated: 9 December 2025