



No. 14 of 2023

## REPORT OF THE REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL

### 2023 Review of Conveyance Allowances – Judges, Court Officers and Statutory Officers

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#### INTRODUCTION

1. The Remuneration Tribunal (**Tribunal**) has conducted a review of Determination 9 of 2022 which sets conveyance allowances and related entitlements for members of the judiciary and office holders listed in section 13 of the *Remuneration Act 1990* (SA) (**Act**), and certain other office holders as conferred under section 14 of the Act.
2. As explained in this report, the Tribunal has decided to increase the allowances by 2.5%. The Tribunal has issued an accompanying determination, which applies from 1 January 2024.

#### THE REVIEW PROCESS

3. On 31 August 2023, in accordance with sections 10(2) and 10(4) of Act, the Tribunal wrote to and invited submissions by 15 September 2023 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 in the public interest
  - b. the Judicial Remuneration Coordinating Committee (**JRCC**)
  - c. members of the judiciary and relevant office holders
4. The Tribunal also placed a notice on its website from 31 August 2023 inviting submissions from affected persons by 15 September 2023.
5. On 5 September 2023, the Electoral Commissioner confirmed that he would not be making a submission on this occasion.
6. On 6 September 2023, the Deputy Auditor-General confirmed that the Auditor-General would not be making a submission in relation to this review.
7. The JRCC provided a written submission on 14 September 2023, on behalf of:
  - a. the Chief Justice, Judges and Masters of the Supreme Court;
  - b. the Chief Judge, Judges and Masters of the District Court;
  - c. the Judges and Magistrates of the South Australian Employment Tribunal;
  - d. the Chief Magistrate and the Magistrates of the Magistrates Court;

- e. the State Coroner and Deputy Coroner;
  - f. the Commissioners of the Environment, Resources and Development Court; and
  - g. the President and Deputy Presidents of the South Australian Employment Tribunal.
8. The JRCC submitted that the Tribunal should review the amount of the conveyance allowance in the usual way and otherwise make a determination that reflects the terms of Determination 9 of 2022.
  9. On 25 September 2023, after an extension was granted, the Premier's representative confirmed that the Premier did not intend to make a submission.
  10. The South Australian Government Financing Authority also considered the determination and suggested some updates, which the Tribunal has adopted.
  11. No other submissions were received.

### **CONSIDERATION AND CONCLUSION**

12. The determination under review sets conveyance allowances which are payable on a fortnightly basis, based on an annual amount of \$18,418, \$17,379, or \$16,063 (depending on the office holder).
13. The determination also sets related entitlements, including the ability for Judges and other office holders to elect to have a motor vehicle allocated to them from the Judicial Vehicle Schedule compiled by the South Australian Government Financing Authority. Where such an election is made, the relevant office holder is charged an annual rate set by the South Australian Government Financing Authority from time to time. The conveyance allowance is then accordingly reduced, and if it is not adequate to cover the cost of the allocated vehicle the office holder will be charged the excess amount over the allowance.
14. The three allowance amounts remained the same from 2016-2022. Last year the Tribunal determined to increase the allowances by 5%, having regard to the previous fluctuations in prices set by the South Australian Government Financing Authority, price changes at the time, and the range of vehicles available without excess charges depending on the level of the allowance.
15. The Tribunal has considered the same factors this year and as a result has determined to increase the allowances by 2.5%.



Matthew O'Callaghan  
**PRESIDENT**



Deborah Black  
**MEMBER**



Peter de Cure AM  
**MEMBER**

Dated: 5 December 2023