



No. 14 of 2023

DETERMINATION OF THE REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL

Conveyance Allowances – Judges, Court Officers and Statutory Officers

DETERMINATION

1. INTERPRETATION

1.1. In this Determination, unless the contrary appears:

“**Court Officer**” means Commissioners of the Environment, Resources and Development Court;

“**Executives**” means persons appointed to an executive position under the *Public Sector Act 2009 (SA)*;

“**Judges**” means any of the following members of the judiciary:

the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court;
the President of the Court of Appeal;
the Judges of the Court of Appeal;
the Puisne Judges of the Supreme Court;
the President of the South Australian Employment Tribunal;
the Deputy Presidents of the South Australian Employment Tribunal;
the Judges of the Environment, Resources and Development Court;
the Judges of the South Australian Employment Tribunal;
the Chief Judge of the District Court;
the other District Court Judges;
the Chief Magistrate (as a Judge of the District Court);
the Magistrates of the South Australian Employment Tribunal;
the other Magistrates;
the Masters of the Supreme Court;
the Masters of the District Court;
the State Coroner; and
the Deputy State Coroner.

“**Registrar**” means the “Registrar” within the meaning of the *South Australian Employment Tribunal Act 2014 (SA)*.

“**Relevant authority**” means:

- (a) the State Courts Administrator in relation to Judges and Court Officers;

- (b) the Registrar in relation to the presidential members of the South Australian Employment Tribunal; and
- (c) the Manager Fleet, South Australian Government Financing Authority in relation to other Statutory Officers.

“**Retirement**” bears the same meaning as in the *Judges’ Pensions Act 1971*, the *Superannuation Act 1988* and the *Southern State Superannuation Act 2009*.

“**Resignation**” bears the same meaning as in the *Judges’ Pensions Act 1971*, the *Superannuation Act 1988*, and the *Southern State Superannuation Act 2009*.

“**Statutory Officers**” means any of the following statutory office holders:

the Auditor-General;
the Electoral Commissioner;
the Deputy Electoral Commissioner; and
the Health and Community Services Complaints Commissioner.

- 1.2. For the purposes of this Determination, “**salary**” bears the same meaning as in the *Judges’ Pensions Act 1971*, *Southern State Superannuation Act 2009*, and in the *Superannuation Act 1988*, to the intent and effect that any amount paid by way of conveyance allowance is not “salary”, and that any abatement or reduction of salary in accordance with this Determination will not affect the determination of entitlements or obligations pursuant to those Acts.

2. CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCES

2.1. Amount of Allowances

Subject to the conditions set out in this Determination, Judges, Court Officers and Statutory Officers are entitled to receive a conveyance allowance payable fortnightly at an annual rate as follows:

- 2.1.1 For:
 - the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court;
 - the President of the Court of Appeal;
 - the Judges of the Court of Appeal;
 - Judges of the Supreme Court;
 - the Chief Judge of the District Court;
 - the President of the South Australian Employment Tribunal; and
 - the Auditor-General;an amount of \$18,478.

- 2.1.2 For:
 - Judges of the District Court;
 - the Chief Magistrate;
 - Judges of the South Australian Employment Tribunal;
 - Judges of the Environment, Resources and Development Court;
 - Masters of the Supreme Court;
 - the Electoral Commissioner; and
 - the Health and Community Services Complaints Commissioner;an amount of \$17,813.

- 2.1.3 For:
 - Magistrates;
 - Masters of the District Court;
 - the State Coroner;

the Deputy State Coroner;
Magistrates of the South Australian Employment Tribunal;
Deputy President of the South Australian Civil and Administrative
Tribunal, appointed under section 14(1)(b) of the *SACAT Act 2013*.
Commissioners of the Environment, Resources and Development
Court; and
the Deputy Electoral Commissioner;
an amount of \$16,465.

2.2. Part Time Appointees

Where a person to whom this Determination applies is appointed on a part time basis, that person is entitled to receive a conveyance allowance at a pro rata amount of the relevant allowance in clause 2.1, based on the number of ordinary hours worked as a proportion of the full time equivalent.

2.3. Temporary Appointees

Where a person who is not provided with a vehicle in their substantive position is appointed on a temporary basis to act as a Judge, Court Officer or Statutory Officer, that person is entitled after the expiration of the first calendar month of service to receive a conveyance allowance in accordance with clause 2.1.

2.4. Use of Taxis and Private Vehicles

2.4.1. Judges and Court Officers

A Judge or Court Officer is not entitled to use a government fleet vehicle allocated to the Courts Administration Authority, or to engage taxis or hire car at the expense of the State Courts Administrator, or to seek the payment of any additional allowance for the use of a private vehicle, whether for official or unofficial purposes unless:

- (a) it has been certified by the State Courts Administrator that it was inefficient or not cost effective for the Judge or Court Officer to use the vehicle available for their official and private use; or
- (b) it has been certified by the State Courts Administrator that the vehicle available for the Judge or Court Officer's official and private use cannot travel safely to a designated location; or
- (c) such use or engagement is consistent with a general direction given by the Chief Judicial Officer of the relevant Court, or in the case of Court Officers, the presiding officer of the relevant Tribunal, as to the circumstances where the vehicle available for official and private use, need not be used by reason of efficiency and cost effectiveness.

For the presidential members of the South Australian Employment Tribunal, the Registrar is the relevant approval authority.

An example of circumstances where such certification or general directions may be given is for journeys to and from the airport, where it may be more efficient or cost effective to use a taxi.

2.4.2. Statutory Officers

A Statutory Officer must not engage a taxi or hire car, and is not entitled to the payment of any additional allowance for the use of a private vehicle, whether for official or unofficial purposes, unless it is inefficient or not cost effective to use the vehicle available for the Statutory Officer's official and private use.

2.4.3. Amount of Reimbursement

Where any person subject to this Determination is seeking payment of an additional allowance to cover the use of a private motor vehicle for official purposes, reimbursement of the cost will be made, calculated at the rate per kilometre at a rate equating to that pursuant to the *SA Public Sector Salaried Employees Interim Award*.

3. VEHICLES AVAILABLE THROUGH THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT FINANCING AUTHORITY FOR OFFICIAL AND PRIVATE USE

3.1. Selection of Vehicle

Persons who are subject to this Determination are entitled, in accordance with the conditions specified herein, to elect to have allocated to them a motor vehicle of any model and type from the Judicial Vehicle Schedule compiled by the South Australian Government Financing Authority, as varied from time to time. Notice of the selected motor vehicle should be made in writing as follows:

- by Judges and Court Officers to the State Courts Administrator;
- by members of the South Australian Employment Tribunal to the Registrar, including members who are Statutory Officers; and
- by other Statutory Officers to the Manager Fleet, South Australian Government Financing Authority.

The annual charge payable for each vehicle, determined by the South Australian Government Financing Authority is set out in the Judicial Vehicle Schedule compiled by the South Australian Government Financing Authority.

3.2. Temporary Appointees

Persons appointed on a temporary basis to act as a Judge, Court Officer or Statutory Officer are not entitled to make an election under clause 3.1.

3.3. Charges for Use of Vehicles

The annual amount payable by a Judge, Court Officer or Statutory Officer for the use of a selected vehicle is the amount set out in the South Australian Government Financing Authority Judicial Vehicle Schedule adjacent to the description of the type of vehicle.

Where a person to whom this Determination applies is appointed on a part time basis, and elects pursuant to clause 3.1 to have a motor vehicle, the charge payable by that person pursuant to clause 3.4 shall be an amount determined by the South Australian Government Financing Authority, which may be greater than the standard charge to a full time officer to appropriately reflect the proportionately greater private use of such a motor vehicle.

3.4. Payment of Vehicle Charges

If a Judge, Court Officer or Statutory Officer makes an election under clause 3.1 and a vehicle is supplied in accordance with that election, then the salary and allowances otherwise payable to the Judge, Court Officer or Statutory Officer must be abated and reduced so as to offset the charges for the use of the vehicle for the period during which the Judge, Court Officer or Statutory Officer has the use of the vehicle.

3.5. New Models or Types

3.5.1. If a new type of vehicle, or a new model of a type specified in the Schedules becomes available for selection in terms of 3.1 after the date of election but before the placement of a binding order, the

Judge, Court Officer, or Statutory Officer is entitled to withdraw the original election and elect to take the new model or type of vehicle.

3.5.2. The annual charge payable for a new model or new type of vehicle is that amount determined by the South Australian Government Financing Authority as the annual charge for private use of the vehicle. The annual charge takes into account the following:

- . purchase price and depreciation;
- . fuel, maintenance, insurance roadside assistance, registration costs and interest rates; (operating costs are calculated on the basis of an average of 70% private usage and 30% business usage);
- . Goods and Services Tax (GST);
- . Fringe Benefits Tax (FBT) based on an attributed business rate of 20,000 kilometres per year; and
- . the vehicle being retained for 3 years or 60,000 kilometres travelled, whichever first occurs.

3.5.3. If a model or type of vehicle selected by a Judge, Court Officer or Statutory Officer becomes unavailable before the placement of a binding order, the Judge, Court Officer or Statutory Officer must be advised accordingly and allowed to make a further election under clause 3.1.

3.5.4. If a model becomes unavailable after the date of placement of a binding order and a later or better model vehicle is supplied, any Judge, Court Officer or Statutory Officer who has selected the unavailable vehicle is liable only to pay the annual charge for the vehicle as selected, and not the charge payable for the vehicle as supplied.

3.6. **Accessories**

The Judge, Court Officer or Statutory Officer may choose to have manufacturer approved accessories fitted to the vehicle. The full cost of the accessories and the expense of having them fitted (including any tax incurred) is payable by the Judge, Court Officer or Statutory Officer. When the vehicle is due for return the Judge, Court Officer or Statutory Officer may have personally-installed accessories removed from the vehicle, providing the Judge, Court Officer or Statutory Officer meets the full cost of restoring the vehicle to the same condition as if the accessories had not been fitted. No compensation will be paid if options are left on the vehicle unless agreed by the relevant authority.

Standard options such as mud flaps, floor mats, cargo barriers (where fitted) may not be removed from the vehicle. Tow bars must not be reinstalled on another vehicle.

The non-fitment of standard features requires that the Judge, Court Officer or Statutory Officer undertakes a comprehensive risk assessment prior to requesting approval from the relevant authority under clause 3.1.

The fitment of non-standard vehicle options fitted requires that the Judge, Court Officer or Statutory Officer seeks documented advice or engineering certificates (as required) to support the decision and to cover any additional costs incurred for registering or re-registering the vehicle in relation to the new specifications. The Judge, Court Officer or Statutory Officer is required to undertake a comprehensive risk assessment prior to requesting approval to fit non-standard vehicle options from the relevant authority under clause 3.1.

3.7. **Retention of Vehicle**

Having made an election and receiving the vehicle, the Judge, Court Officer or Statutory Officer must keep the vehicle for a period equivalent to the period determined from time to time by the South Australian Government Financing Authority as the period for the replacement of vehicles provided.

At the conclusion of that period the Judge, Court Officer or Statutory Officer will be entitled to make a new election, or, if they do not make an election, to be paid the allowance.

3.8. Conditions of Use

The vehicle will be fully maintained, serviced and insured by the relevant authority under clause 3.1.

The vehicle will be made available at or near the place of duty of the Judge, Court Officer, or Statutory Officer and the vehicle will be available for private and official use, subject to the following:

3.8.1. The Judge, Court Officer, or Statutory Officer must make the vehicle available for official use (including for official use by the Judge, Court Officer, or Statutory Officer) at all times whilst the vehicle is parked at or near the usual place of work of the Judge, Court Officer, or Statutory Officer, and the Judge, Court Officer or Statutory Officer, does not require the vehicle for private use.

3.8.2 The Judge, Court Officer, or Statutory Officer will be authorised by the relevant authority to refuel the vehicle provided the vehicle is fuelled or recharged in accordance with any requirements specified by the South Australian Government Financing Authority, which may include requirements that the vehicle be fuelled using a particular brand of motor fuel and that it be only fuelled in South Australia. (If fuelled otherwise than in accordance with those requirements, it will be at the cost of the Judge, Court Officer, or Statutory Officer).

3.8.3. The Judge, Court Officer, or Statutory Officer must make the vehicle available as required by the relevant authority for the purposes of the maintenance and repair of the vehicle and must deliver the vehicle to such place as the relevant authority may specify for that purpose.

3.8.4. The relevant authority will ensure that Judges, Court Officers and Statutory Officers are insured (which may be pursuant to Government "self-insurance") in respect of compulsory third party liability, third party property damage and any property damage to the vehicle and will hold the Judge, Court Officer, or Statutory Officer harmless in respect of any such property damage.

The Judge, Court Officer, or Statutory Officer is responsible for making their own arrangements for insurance in respect of personal items within the vehicle and any towed items (e.g. trailers and caravans). The Judge, Court Officer, or Statutory Officer must comply with any requirements of the insurance policy of which the member is aware or should have been made aware of.

3.8.5. The Judge, Court Officer or Statutory Officer will be responsible for any driving or parking fines for offences incurred.

3.8.6. The vehicle is available to the Judge, Court Officer or Statutory Officer while on leave. Where the Judge, Court Officer or Statutory Officer is absent from duty for a period greater than 7 days then the Judge, Court Officer, or Statutory Officer will be responsible for fuelling the vehicle until returning to duty.

3.8.7. Vehicles may be driven interstate during periods of leave and there is no limit to privately travelled kilometres. Fuel and recharging charges

for private interstate trips are entirely the personal responsibility of the Judge, Court Officer, or Statutory Officer.

3.9. **Special Conditions of Use**

Notwithstanding anything else in this Determination:

- 3.9.1. where any damage is the result of a wilful or deliberate act of any person, the relevant authority may take such action as they think is fit to recover the cost of such damage;
- 3.9.2. the insurance and discharges are not applicable if the driver is under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol;
- 3.9.3. the insurance and discharges are not applicable if the insurance has been brought to the attention of the Judge, Court Officer or Statutory Officer and is avoided by an action of the driver of the vehicle; and
- 3.9.4. where the insurance policy contains an excess clause, then the Judge, Court Officer or Statutory Officer will be liable to repay the relevant authority the amount of that excess (or any part thereof) in the event that it becomes payable by reason of the driver of the vehicle being blameworthy for any of the damage giving rise to a claim on the policy when the vehicle is being used other than for official use.

3.10. **Care of Vehicle**

The Judge, Court Officer or Statutory Officer is responsible for ensuring that reasonable care is taken of the vehicle. Off street parking at the home of the person concerned is to be used if available and reasonable steps are to be taken to ensure its security. Where any damage to a vehicle supplied to a:

- 3.10.1. Judge or Court Officer is, in the opinion of the Courts Administration Council, the consequence of a serious breach of the obligations imposed by this clause, the Judge, or Court Officer must, on demand, pay the Courts Administration Authority the proper cost of rectification of such damage;
- 3.10.2. Statutory Officer is, in the opinion of the Manager Fleet, South Australian Government Financing Authority, the consequence of a serious breach of the obligations imposed by this clause, the Statutory Officer concerned must, on demand, pay to the South Australian Government Financing Authority the proper cost of rectification of such damage; and
- 3.10.3. Presidential member of the South Australian Employment Tribunal is, in the opinion of the Registrar, the consequence of a serious breach of the obligations imposed by this clause, the Member concerned must, on demand, pay to the Tribunal the proper cost of rectification of such damage.

3.11. **Additional Drivers**

The vehicle may be driven by any other Government employee who requires the vehicle for official use.

Judges, Court Officers, and Statutory Officers, must nominate to the relevant authority the names of any persons to use the vehicle at times when it is not required to be available for official use and, subject to the control and direction of the Judge, Court Officer or Statutory Officer, such persons will be authorised to use the vehicle upon such nomination.

Approval is required from the relevant authority for the vehicle to be driven by holders of any form of provisional licence or learner's permit. Approval is also required if any other category of person not otherwise mentioned, is to drive the vehicle.

3.12. Right to Purchase

At any time during the 12 months immediately preceding the date of his or her retirement or resignation, a Judge, Court Officer, or Statutory Officer may, by notice in writing to the relevant authority, elect to purchase the vehicle then allocated to him or her as at the date of his or her retirement or resignation or at the end of the lease period. After such notification has been given, the relevant authority must take such steps as are necessary to ensure that it can sell the vehicle to the member.

3.13 No Changeover

A Judge, Court Officer or Statutory Officer who makes an election under clause 3.12 shall not be permitted or required to hand a vehicle in for normally scheduled changeover where that changeover would occur between the date of election and the date of retirement/resignation/end of lease period.

3.14 Conditions of Purchase

The conditions in relation to a purchase made following an election under clause 3.12 shall be:

3.14.1 The price will be the fair market value, as determined by the South Australian Government Financing Authority, for such a vehicle sold without any statutory warranty.

3.14.2 The price will be agreed between the Manager Fleet, South Australian Government Financing Authority, and the Judge, Court Officer or Statutory Officer, with due regard being had to prices generally recovered for such vehicles at the South Australian Government Financing Authority public motor vehicle auctions.

3.14.3 Failing such agreement, the price will be determined by an independent valuer agreed by the parties. Where the prospective retiree/resignee is a:

3.14.3.1. Judge or Court Officer, any fee payable to such a valuer shall be borne in equal shares by the prospective retiree/resignee and the State Courts Administrator;

3.14.3.2. Statutory Officer, any fee payable to such a valuer shall be borne in equal shares with half payable by the respective retiree/resignee and the other half being payable from funds appropriated to pay expenses associated with the statutory office held by the retiree/resignee; and

3.14.3.3. Presidential member of the South Australian Employment Tribunal, any fee payable to such a valuer shall be borne in equal shares by the prospective retiree/resignee and the Registrar.

3.14.4 The purchase of the vehicle will be directly from SAFA's agent for Vehicle Disposal Management (VDM) services.

3.14.5 The price shall be payable to SAFA's VDM agent in full on, or prior to, the date of retirement/resignation of the Judge, Court Officer or Statutory Officer.

3.14.6 Vehicles are sold without motor vehicle registration, or registration plates. It is the responsibility of the purchaser to make their own arrangements for the registration of the vehicle, and to affix new registration plates to the vehicle.

3.14.7 From the sale date, all liabilities such as registration, insurance, fuel management and ongoing servicing requirements will become the responsibility of the new owner.

4. DATE OF OPERATION


- 4.1 This Determination operates from 1 January 2024. It supersedes Determination 9 of 2022.
- 4.2 If a Judge, Court Officer or Statutory Officer currently has the use of a vehicle pursuant to a previous Determination of the Remuneration Tribunal, the conveyance allowance and annual charge payable under the previous Determination will continue to apply. Clause 2 of this Determination will have no effect until that Judge, Court Officer or Statutory Officer takes delivery of a vehicle pursuant to this Determination, or elects not to receive a vehicle.



Matthew O'Callaghan
PRESIDENT



Deborah Black
MEMBER



Peter de Cure AM
MEMBER

Dated: 5 December 2023