



REPORT OF THE REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL
2015 REVIEW OF ELECTORATE AND EXPENSES ALLOWANCES FOR
MINISTERS OF THE CROWN AND OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT¹

1. INTRODUCTION

Section 4(1)(c) of the *Parliamentary Remuneration Act 1990*, confers jurisdiction on the Remuneration Tribunal (“the Tribunal”) to determine from time to time electorate allowances and other allowances payable to Members of the South Australian Parliament.

Section 3 of the Remuneration Act 1990 (“the Act”) defines such allowances and expenses as remuneration, and Section 2 of the Act requires the Tribunal to review previous determinations of remuneration under this Act at least once in each year.

The last determination covering the matters of electorate and expenses allowances was Report 2 of 2014 and Determination 2 of 2014, issued on 7 March 2014.

Section 10(2) of the Act, requires that before making a determination affecting the remuneration of a particular person, or persons of a particular class, the Tribunal must allow that person, or persons of that class, a reasonable opportunity to make submissions.

On 22 June 2015 the Tribunal wrote to the Premier, the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Opposition, and each Member of Parliament advising that the Tribunal intended to review Determination 2 of 2014 and invited submissions for the Tribunal’s consideration.

The Tribunal received a submission from the Member for Finniss and the Member for Napier.

2. DISCUSSION

The Tribunal received written submissions from the Member for Finniss and the Member for Napier with regards to the electorate and expenses allowances.

2.1 MEMBER FOR NAPIER

The Member for Napier submitted to the Tribunal that the electorate of Napier should be reviewed by the Tribunal and subsequently moved from a category (a) to

¹ The *Remuneration Act 1990* (SA) s 8(2) provides that The Tribunal must sit at least once in each year for the purpose of determining, or reviewing previous determinations of, remuneration under this Act.

a category (b), of Section 2.1.1 - House of Assembly of DTR 2 of 2014, to bring it in line with other electorates Heysen, Kavel, Light and Taylor.

In reviewing the Member for Napier's submission the Tribunal considered an assortment of information including data provided by the South Australian Electoral Commission and the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure, circumstances of electorates of similar size and locality.

Based on the information before it, the Tribunal has decided that an adjustment to the electorate category and subsequently the Member for Napier's allowance was not justified at this time.

2.2 MEMBER FOR FINNISS

The Member for Finnis submitted to the Tribunal concerns around the ability to claim costs incurred for travel by ferry within the electorate when conducting parliamentary and/or electorate related business.

In reviewing the Member for Finnis' circumstances, the Tribunal considered the circumstances of other electorates and associated travel requirements, noting differences in travel requirements of the Member for Finnis.

In acknowledging these differences, the Tribunal considers it would be appropriate to make a determination applicable only to the Electorate of Finnis (see: Remuneration Tribunal Determination No 5 of 2015).

2.3 ELECTORATE AND EXPENSES ALLOWANCES FOR MINISTERS OF THE CROWN AND OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

Having regard to recent increases in CPI being offset by a decrease in domestic holiday travel and accommodation by 5.4%, the Tribunal has decided that the allowances should remain as provided by Determination 2 of 2014.



John Lewin
PRESIDENT



Nicola Vincent
MEMBER



Peter Alexander
MEMBER

26 October 2015