



No. 14 of 2018

REPORT OF THE REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL
ACCOMMODATION AND MEAL ALLOWANCES – JUDGES, COURT OFFICERS AND
STATUTORY OFFICERS

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1. The Remuneration Tribunal (“the Tribunal”) has jurisdiction under section 13 of the *Remuneration Act 1990* (“the Act”), to determine the remuneration payable to judicial officers and certain other court officers. The Tribunal is also given jurisdiction under section 14 of the Act to determine the remuneration payable to holders of certain statutory offices. The Act defines remuneration as including; salary, allowances, expenses, fees and any other benefit of a pecuniary nature.
2. This Determination deals with the accommodation and meal allowances payable to judicial officers, certain other court officers, and those statutory officers whose position is within the ambit of section 14 of the Act.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

3. Section 10(2) of the Act, requires that before the making of 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.
4. The Tribunal, by letters dated 18 September 2018, sent notifications of the review to the Judicial Remuneration Coordinating Committee (“JRCC”), the Magistrates Association of South Australia (“MASA”), and the Premier, as the Minister responsible for the Act. The Tribunal also distributed notices of the review to the Statutory Office Holders to which the accompanying Determination applies, on the same date.
5. On 19 September 2018, the Tribunal distributed an email notification of the review to judicial officers. Additionally, a notice of the review was also placed on the Tribunal’s website.

SUBMISSIONS

6. The JRCC submitted that the Remuneration Tribunal should review the amount of the accommodation and meal allowance in the usual way and otherwise make a determination that reflects the terms of Determination No. 14 of 2017.
7. The Crown Solicitor’s Office (“CSO”), on behalf of the Hon. Premier, submitted that the accommodation and meal allowances should be updated by the Tribunal in the customary manner, in line with the annual adjustments made to accommodation and meal allowances for the general SA public sector.

8. No other submissions were received by the Tribunal.

CONCLUSIONS

9. The allowances under consideration for Judges, Court Officers and Statutory Officers, are provided for the purpose of accommodation and meal expenses associated with travelling in an official capacity within South Australia and interstate.
10. The Tribunal has had regard to increases in accommodation and meal allowances applicable within the South Australian public sector and the relevant information concerning changes in the component costs of the subject of those allowances.
11. The Tribunal is of the view that justification exists to increase the allowances under consideration. The Tribunal has issued a Determination accordingly. The increases in the amounts of the allowances are marginal.



John Lewin
PRESIDENT



Peter Alexander
MEMBER



Pamela Martin
MEMBER

Dated this 17th day of December 2018