



No. 7 of 2019

REPORT OF THE REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL
2019 REVIEW OF ACCOMMODATION AND MEAL ALLOWANCES FOR
MINISTERS OF THE CROWN AND OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1. Section 14 of the *Remuneration Act 1990* (“the Act”) provides that the Remuneration Tribunal (“the Tribunal”) has jurisdiction to determine the remuneration, or a specified part of the remuneration, payable in respect of certain offices, if such jurisdiction is conferred upon the Tribunal by any other Act or by the Governor by proclamation.
2. Section 3A(2) of the *Parliamentary Remuneration Act 1990* (“the PR Act”) confers jurisdiction on the Tribunal to make a Determination or perform any other function required by the PR 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. Section 10(4) of the Act provides that the Honourable Premier of South Australia (“the Premier”), as the Minister responsible for the Act may intervene, personally or by counsel or other representative, in proceedings before the Tribunal for the purpose of introducing evidence, or making submissions, on any question relevant to the public interest.
5. The Tribunal wrote to the Premier, as the Minister responsible for the Act, and the Members of Parliament on 7 May 2019, notifying of the Tribunal’s intention to review the relevant accommodation and meal allowances. The Tribunal invited written submissions with a closing date of 7 June 2019.
6. Additionally, on 7 May 2019, a notice of the review was placed on the Tribunal’s public website.
7. On 7 June 2019, the Member for Mawson sought the opportunity to make an oral submission to the Tribunal. That opportunity was provided to the Member for Mawson on 10 July 2019.

SUBMISSIONS

8. A written submission was received from the Member for Mawson and on 10 July 2019 the Member for Mawson provided oral submissions to the Tribunal.
9. No other submissions were received by the Tribunal in relation to the review to which this Report relates.

ACCOMMODATION AND MEAL ALLOWANCES FOR MINISTERS OF THE CROWN AND THE LEADER AND DEPUTY LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION

10. The allowances under consideration for Ministers of the Crown and the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Opposition, are provided for the purpose of accommodation and meal expenses associated with travelling in an official capacity within South Australia and interstate. The allowances are conditioned such that actual expenses for accommodation and meals must be incurred.
11. The Tribunal has had regard to increases in accommodation and meal allowances applicable to the South Australian Public Sector. Accordingly, the Tribunal considers that justification exists to increase the accommodation and meal allowances by a similar quantum. The variation of the different allowances depend on the location to which the allowance applies.
12. The new rates of accommodation and meal allowances are published in the accompanying Determination.

MEMBERS ACCOMMODATION ALLOWANCE

13. The members accommodation allowance is provided to a member of either House of Parliament whose usual place of residence is more than 75 kilometres by road (by the most direct route) from the Adelaide General Post Office ("GPO"), and who is required to stay in Adelaide overnight in order to attend to either parliamentary duties or the Member's duty to be actively involved in community affairs. A modest level of allowance is also provided to a member whose permanent residence is outside metropolitan Adelaide but who does not qualify for the existing accommodation allowance because they do not live more than 75 kilometres from the GPO.
14. The Tribunal has adjusted the nomenclature of the accompanying Determination in the interests of precision of meaning.
15. The Tribunal has had regard to increases in accommodation and meal allowances applicable to the South Australian Public Sector. Accordingly, the Tribunal considers that justification exists to increase the members accommodation allowance.
16. The new rates of members accommodation allowance are published in the accompanying Determination.



John Lewin
PRESIDENT



Peter Alexander
MEMBER



Pamela Martin
MEMBER

Dated this 25th day of July 2019.