



No. 9 of 2019

REPORT OF THE REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL
2019 REVIEW OF ACCOMMODATION AND MEAL ALLOWANCES – JUDGES, COURT
OFFICERS AND STATUTORY OFFICERS

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1. Section 13 of the Remuneration Act (“the Act”) provides that the Remuneration Tribunal (“the Tribunal”) has jurisdiction to determine the remuneration of members of the judiciary and other offices listed in that section of the Act.
2. Section 14 of the Act provides that 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.
3. The Act defines remuneration as including; salary, allowances, expenses, fees and any other benefit of a pecuniary nature.
4. This Report deals with the accommodation and meal allowances payable to judicial and other relevant officers.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

5. Section 10(2) of the Act provides that prior to the making of a Determination, the Tribunal must allow an affected person, or persons of an affected class, a reasonable opportunity to make submissions orally or in writing to the Tribunal.
6. 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.
7. The Tribunal, by letters dated 19 August 2019, 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.
8. The Tribunal, by letters dated 19 August 2019, sent notifications of the review to the Electoral Commissioner, Deputy Electoral Commissioner, the Health and Community Services Complaints Commissioner, and the Auditor-General.
9. On 19 August 2019, the Tribunal distributed an email notification of the review to the relevant office holders. Additionally, on 19 August 2019, a notice of the review was placed on the Tribunal’s website.

SUBMISSIONS

10. The JRCC submitted that the 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 2018.
11. No other submissions were received by the Tribunal.

CONCLUSIONS

12. 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.
13. 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.
14. The Tribunal is of the view that justification exists to increase the allowances under consideration. The Tribunal has issued the accompanying Determination accordingly.



John Lewin
PRESIDENT



Peter Alexander
MEMBER



Pamela Martin
MEMBER

Dated this 21st day of November 2019