



No. 10 of 2017

REPORT OF THE REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL
2017 REVIEW OF THE COMMON ALLOWANCE FOR MEMBERS OF THE PARLIAMENT
OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

INTRODUCTION

1. The *Remuneration Act 1990* (“the Act”) was introduced to establish an independent tribunal to determine the remuneration payable to members of the judiciary, and the remuneration or part of the remuneration payable in respect of certain other offices. Section 14 of the Act provides that additional jurisdiction may be conferred on the Remuneration Tribunal (“the Tribunal”) by any other Act, or by proclamation by the Governor. Section 3A of the *Parliamentary Remuneration Act 1990* (“the PR Act”) confers jurisdiction on the Remuneration Tribunal to make a determination or perform any other function required by the PR Act.

BACKGROUND

2. In 2015, the PR Act was amended by the *Parliamentary Remuneration (Determination of Remuneration) Amendment Act 2015* (“the Amending Act”) and a number of allowances for Members of the Parliament and Ministers of the Crown were abolished. To compensate for the abolition of the allowances, a Common Allowance was established by the Amending Act. The Remuneration Tribunal is subject to a statutory direction under the Amending Act to determine the amount of the Common Allowance. Accordingly, the Tribunal issued Report and Determination 7 of 2015, which determined the amount of the Common Allowance for Members of the Parliament. The Tribunal reviewed the Common Allowance in 2016, and decided not to award an increase in the level of the allowance. The Tribunal issued Report 16 of 2016, which deals with the grounds upon which that decision was made.
3. Section 4AA(3) of the PR Act, provides that the Tribunal must review the Common Allowance once per year, and if the Tribunal considers it appropriate to do so, the Tribunal may determine an increase to the level of the Common Allowance.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

4. 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.
5. The Tribunal wrote to the Premier, as the Minister responsible for the Act, and the Members of the Parliament on 9 October 2017, notifying the parties of the Tribunal’s intention to review the Common Allowance, and inviting submissions with a closing date

of 31 October 2017. A notice of the review was also placed on the Tribunal's public website. No submissions were received by the Tribunal.

CONCLUSION

6. The Tribunal has noted that no submissions were made from any member of the Parliament for whom the Common Allowance forms a component of remuneration. Furthermore, there are no grounds advanced for a variation to the level of the allowance. The Tribunal is not otherwise aware of any relevant changes in circumstances which might warrant a variation to the Common Allowance at this time.
7. The Tribunal has conducted its annual review of the Common Allowance for the Members of the Parliament. On the material before it, the Tribunal has therefore concluded that no adjustment will be made to the level of the Common Allowance.
8. Accordingly, the Tribunal will make no variation to Determination 7 of 2015, which will continue to apply.



John Lewin
PRESIDENT



Peter Alexander
MEMBER



Pamela Martin
MEMBER

Dated this 22nd day of November 2017.