



No. 8 of 2019

REPORT OF THE REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL
REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES APPLICABLE TO THE ELECTORATE OF MAWSON
– TRAVEL TO AND FROM KANGAROO ISLAND BY FERRY AND AIRCRAFT

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 upon the Tribunal to make a Determination or perform any other function required by the PR Act.
3. Section 3A(3) of the PR Act provides that the Tribunal may make a different provision according to the member, the electorate, the House of Parliament or the circumstances to which the Determination is to apply.
4. The last Determination in relation to the reimbursement of expenses for travel to and from Kangaroo Island is Determination 4 of 2018. That Determination applies to the specific circumstances of the electorate of Mawson, where ferry travel by sea is routinely required to move around the electorate for the purposes of parliamentary business.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

5. 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.
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 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 ferry travel Determination for the electorate of Mawson. The Tribunal invited written submissions with a closing date of 7 June 2019.
8. Additionally, on 7 May 2019, a notice of the review was placed on the Tribunal’s public website.

9. 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

10. A written submission was received from the Member for Mawson. In that submission, the Tribunal was advised that there are some occasions on which travel by sea is disrupted and travel by aircraft is necessary or more efficient for the discharge of electoral and parliamentary business.
11. No other submissions were received by the Tribunal in relation to the review to which this Report relates.

CONCLUSION

12. The maximum amount of ferry travel expense reimbursement applicable to the electorate of Mawson, as provided for by Determination 4 of 2018¹, is \$3380 per annum.
13. The Tribunal notes that the costs of journeys by ferry between Fleurieu Peninsula and Kangaroo Island have not increased during the period under review. Consequently, the maximum amount of reimbursement has not been adjusted by the Tribunal on this occasion.
14. Having received submissions from the member for Mawson concerning travel between the Fleurieu Peninsula and Kangaroo Island. The Tribunal has determined to vary the terms of the entitlement to reimbursement, currently prescribed by Determination 4 of 2018, so that the means of travel for which the entitlement is payable may be *ferry* or *air* travel.
15. The variation of the reimbursement entitlement to include air travel will not impose any additional cost upon the State.
16. The accompanying Determination reflects the variation to this entitlement up to the existing amount.

OPERATIVE DATE

17. The operative date of the accompanying Determination will be 25 July 2019.



John Lewin
PRESIDENT



Peter Alexander
MEMBER



Pamela Martin
MEMBER

Dated this 25th day of July 2019.

¹ Remuneration Tribunal Determination 4 of 2018 – Reimbursement of Expenses Applicable to the Electorate of Mawson – Travel by Ferry