



No. 8 of 2014

REPORT AND DETERMINATION OF THE REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL
TRAVELLING AND ACCOMMODATION ALLOWANCES FOR
MINISTERS OF THE CROWN AND OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

A. REPORT

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Section 4(1)(c) of the *Parliamentary Remuneration Act 1990*, confers jurisdiction on the Remuneration Tribunal to determine from time to time electorate allowances and other allowances and expenses for Members of Parliament.
- 1.2 Section 3 of the *Remuneration Act 1990*, defines such allowances and expenses as remuneration, and section 8(2) of the Act requires the Tribunal to review previous determinations of remuneration under this Act at least once in each year.
- 1.3 The last determination covering these matters was Report and Determination No. 3 of 2013, issued on 18 June 2013.
- 1.4 Section 10(2) of the *Remuneration Act 1990*, requires that before making 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.
- 1.5 The Tribunal wrote to the Premier, the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Opposition, and each country Member of Parliament on 18 July 2014. The letter advised that the Tribunal intended to review Determination 3 of 2013, and invited written submissions for the Tribunal's consideration by close of business on 8 August 2014.
- 1.6 One written submission was received from a country member who expressed satisfaction with the current Country Members Accommodation Allowance.

2. Travelling and Accommodation Allowances for Ministers and the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Opposition

- 2.1 This allowance provides financial assistance to Ministers and the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Opposition, for travel and accommodation expenses involved in travelling in an official capacity both within South Australia and interstate.
- 2.2 Having regard to the increased travelling and accommodation allowances granted to the South Australian Public Sector and to Judges, Court Officers and Statutory Officers, the Tribunal is of the view that justification exists to increase this allowance.
- 2.3 The Tribunal has therefore determined to provide equivalent increases to the travelling and accommodation allowances for Ministers of the Crown, the

Leader of the Opposition and the Deputy Leader of the Opposition, to operate with effect from 1 July 2014.

3. Country Members Accommodation Allowance

- 3.1 This allowance provides financial assistance 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 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 financial assistance 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.
- 3.2 Having regard to the increased accommodation allowances granted to the South Australian Public Sector and to Judges, Court Officers and Statutory Officers, the Tribunal is of the view that justification exists to increase the Country Members Accommodation Allowance.
- 3.3 Consequently, the Tribunal has determined to provide equivalent increases to the accommodation allowances for Country Members of Parliament, to operate with effect from 1 July 2014.

B. DETERMINATION

1. Scope of Determination

This Determination applies to Ministers of the Crown, the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Opposition, and to country Members of Parliament.

2. Travelling and Accommodation Allowances

- 2.1 A Minister who actually incurs expenditure when travelling on official business shall be paid:
 - 2.1.1 Outside Metropolitan Adelaide, as defined by the *Development Act 1993*, but within the State - up to two hundred and seventy seven dollars (\$277) per day for meals and accommodation;
 - 2.1.2 Interstate - up to four hundred and eighty six dollars (\$486) per day for Sydney, and up to four hundred and twenty four dollars (\$424) per day for places other than Sydney, for meals and accommodation;
 - 2.1.3 Any extra expenditure necessarily incurred in addition to the allowances provided in 2.1.1 and 2.1.2.
- 2.2 The allowances provided by this clause shall also be payable to the Leader of the Opposition for expenditure actually incurred when travelling on official business, and to the Deputy Leader of the Opposition when he or she deputises, at the Leader's request, for the Leader of the Opposition in his or her official capacity.

3. Country Members Accommodation Allowance

Part A

A Member of either House of Parliament:

- a) whose usual place of residence is more than 75 kilometers by road from the General Post Office at Adelaide (by the most direct route); and

- b) who is required to stay in Adelaide overnight in order to attend not only to parliamentary duties but also to the Member's duty to be actively involved in community affairs and to represent and assist constituents in dealings with governmental and other public agencies and authorities,

shall be paid an accommodation allowance of two hundred and twenty dollars (\$220) for each such night up to a maximum of one hundred and thirty five nights per annum, with the total allowance payable not to exceed twenty-nine thousand, seven hundred dollars (\$29,700) for the twelve month period commencing on and from 1 July 2014.

Part B

A Member of either House of Parliament:

- a) whose usual place of residence is less than 75 kilometers by road from the General Post Office at Adelaide (by the most direct route), but is outside Metropolitan Adelaide (as defined by the *Development Act 1993*); and
- b) who is required to stay in Adelaide overnight in order to attend not only to parliamentary duties but also to the Member's duty to be actively involved in the community,

shall be paid an accommodation allowance of two hundred and twenty dollars (\$220) for each such night up to a maximum of fifteen (15) nights during each twelve month period commencing on and from 1 July 2014.

4. Date of Operation

The allowances prescribed in Clause 2 and 3 of this Determination shall operate with effect from 1 July 2014, and supersede those prescribed previously in Determination No. 3 of 2013.

D R Prior
PRESIDENT

D J Smythe
MEMBER

14 August 2014