



No. 5 of 2018

**REPORT OF THE REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL**  
**2018 REVIEW OF REMUNERATION FOR THE AUDITOR-GENERAL, ELECTORAL**  
**COMMISSIONER, DEPUTY ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER AND HEALTH AND**  
**COMMUNITY SERVICES COMPLAINTS COMMISSIONER**

## **INTRODUCTION**

1. The Remuneration Tribunal (“the Tribunal”) is responsible, pursuant to section 14 of the *Remuneration Act 1990* (“the Act”), for determining the remuneration payable to the following statutory office holders:
  - the Auditor-General;
  - the Electoral Commissioner;
  - the Deputy Electoral Commissioner; and
  - the Health and Community Services Complaints Commissioner.
2. In accordance with section 10(2) of the Act, the Tribunal must, prior to making a Determination, allow an affected person or persons a reasonable opportunity to make submissions.

## **BACKGROUND**

3. The last review of remuneration for the abovementioned statutory office holders was conducted in 2017, whereby the Tribunal increased that remuneration by 2.4 per cent, with an operative date of 1 January 2017.

## **SUBMISSIONS**

4. The Tribunal, by letters dated 9 April 2018, invited submissions from those officers listed at paragraph 1 of this report. The Tribunal also invited the Honourable Premier (“the Premier”) to make submissions, as Minister responsible for the Act. The Tribunal fixed a closing date of 27 April 2018 for the making of written submissions.
5. On 27 April 2018, the Tribunal received a request from the Office for the Public Sector, on behalf of the Premier, for an extension of time until 4 May 2018 for the making of written

submissions. The Tribunal considered that request on 1 May 2018, and granted the extension, as proposed by Office for the Public Sector, on behalf of the Premier.

6. On 4 May 2018, the Tribunal received the submission on behalf of the Premier, which is summarised as follows:
  - In the course of previous reviews, the Tribunal has had regard to remuneration increases applicable in the broader public sector, and in particular, increases applicable to Public Sector Executives. The Tribunal has also previously considered economic indicators.
  - The Tribunal should have regard to the following economic indicators in its review of remuneration:
    - The economic indices published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics for:
      - The Wage Price Index (“WPI”) for South Australia, which indicated that the costs of employment in South Australia had increased by 2.0% over the 12 months to December 2017 and is slightly lower than the national WPI figure of 2.1% nationally;
      - The Consumer Price Index (“CPI”) for South Australia (all groups) which showed an increase of 2.3% over the 12 months to December 2017, which was higher than 1.9% nationally; and
      - The underlying inflation rate as at December 2017, which showed the measure of ‘underlying’ inflation in Australia at an annual growth of 1.9%.
  - *The South Australian Modern Public Sector Enterprise Agreement: Salaried 2017* provided for general salary increases of \$1,500 per annum for an annual salary of up to and including \$75,000 per annum, or \$1,800 or 1.5% per annum (whichever is greater).
  - The 2017 review of Public Service Executive Remuneration approved an increase of 1.5%, with an operative date of 1 July 2017.
7. No other submissions were received by the Tribunal.

## **CONCLUSION**

8. The Tribunal considers that salary increases applicable to public sector executives, and public sector salaries more generally, are a relevant consideration when fixing the levels of salary for those statutory office holders within the scope of the accompanying Determination. Moreover, the Tribunal has given due regard the relevant economic indicia, as submitted by the Office for the Public Sector on behalf of the Premier.
9. The Tribunal has decided to increase the salaries of the statutory office holders at paragraph 1 of this report by 1.5% per cent.
10. The accompanying Determination will issue accordingly.

## **OPERATIVE DATE**

11. The operative date of the accompanying Determination will be 1 January 2018.



John Lewin  
**PRESIDENT**



Peter Alexander  
**MEMBER**



Pamela Martin  
**MEMBER**

Dated this 10<sup>th</sup> day of May 2018