

No. 9 of 2021

REPORT OF THE REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL 2021 REVIEW OF ACCOMMODATION AND MEAL ALLOWANCES FOR MINISTERS OF THE CROWN AND THE LEADER AND DEPUTY LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 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. Section 4(2)(a) of the PR Act provides that the Tribunal must, in determining electorate allowances and other remuneration for members of Parliament, have regard not only to their parliamentary duties, but also to:
 - 4.1. Their duty to be actively involved in community affairs; and
 - 4.2. Their duty to represent and assist their constituents in dealings with governmental and other public agencies and authorities.

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 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. On 28 June 2021, the Tribunal wrote to the Members of Parliament, notifying of the Tribunal's intention to conduct a review of its Determinations in relation to Members of Parliament. The Tribunal invited written submissions with a closing date of 16 July 2021.

- 8. On 28 June 2021, the Tribunal wrote to the Honourable Premier of South Australia ("the Premier"), as the Minister responsible for the Act, inviting submissions in the public interest, with a closing date of 16 July 2021.
- 9. In addition, on 28 June 2021, a public notification of the review was placed on the Tribunal's website.

SUBMISSIONS

10. No submissions were received by the Tribunal in relation to the review to which this Report relates.

CONSIDERATION AND CONCLUSION

- 11. Historically, the Tribunal has had regard to increases in accommodation and meal allowances applicable to Public Sector employees in reviewing this entitlement.
- 12. In keeping with past practice, the Tribunal has given due regard to increases in accommodation and meal allowances applicable throughout the Public Sector generally, and has applied a commensurate economic adjustment to the per diem accommodation and meal rates within the accompanying Determination.

DATE OF OPERATION

13. The accompanying Determination will have operative effect on and from 1 October 2021, and will supersede in full the previous Determination in relation to per diem meal and accommodation allowances.

Matthew O'Callaghan PRESIDENT

Deborah Black **MEMBER**

Peter de Cure **MEMBER**

Pak Silm

Dated this 20th day of September 2021.