



## REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL

### Explanatory Memorandum: Determination 2001/20

1. The Remuneration Tribunal has inquired into and determined the allowances and significantly related matters for members of the Parliament, as it is empowered to do by the *Remuneration Tribunal Act 1973*.

#### **PART 1 – Members of Parliament - Allowances**

2. Clause 1.1 specifies the Principal Determination (Number 26 of 1998) for the purposes of Part 1 of the Determination.
3. Clause 1.2 makes changes to the Principal Determination to enable the category of 'designated person' to have access to the private vehicle allowance provisions. This is consistent with the provisions currently available to each Senator's and Member's spouse, nominee and dependent child.
4. Clause 1.3 makes a change to the Principal Determination to simplify and streamline arrangements for reclaiming parliamentarians' communications allowance funds on the last day of business before polling for a double dissolution or general election. Under current arrangements, the words 'shall be returned to the Commonwealth' have required government officers to visit electorates in person to reclaim funds, immediately before polling day. However, in practice, such moneys can now be reclaimed electronically, no longer requiring the cost and administrative burdens associated with existing arrangements.
5. Clause 1.4 makes a change to the Principal Determination to allow Members to communicate with electors not currently in their electorates, but who will be in their electorates following the determination of new electoral boundaries. This change also broadens the convention, by allowing a Member to communicate with residents of areas that would not become part of the electoral division currently represented by the Member. However, this ability to communicate with such residents is limited in that the Member can only communicate with such residents in those adjoining or nearby areas where those areas and part of the Member's existing electoral division are to become part of the same electoral division.

Authority: Sub-sections 7(1) and 7(4)  
of the *Remuneration Tribunal Act 1973*