



REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL

Determination 2005/11

Statement on 2005 Review of Judicial and Related Offices' Remuneration

1. Pursuant to sub-sections 7(3) and 7(4) of the *Remuneration Tribunal Act 1973* (the Act), the Remuneration Tribunal (the Tribunal) is empowered to inquire into and determine remuneration to be paid to judicial and related (non-judicial) offices and matters related significantly thereto. Determination 2005/11 is the Tribunal's principal determination for judicial and related offices' remuneration and significantly related matters.
2. The President of the Tribunal wrote to all relevant parties inviting submissions to the Tribunal's 2005 annual review of judicial and related offices' remuneration. The Tribunal appreciated submissions received which were taken into account in framing the Tribunal's decisions.
3. The Tribunal has determined a 4.1 per cent increase for judicial and related offices as part of the 2005 annual review, with effect on and from 1 July 2005. In deciding on an appropriate adjustment, the Tribunal has taken into account a range of factors including (but not limited to):
 - key economic indicators;
 - specific indicators such as the Wage Cost Index (WCI) series;
 - wage outcomes in the public and (to a lesser degree) the private sector, noting the 'Trends in Federal Enterprise Bargaining' and the Australian Public Service remuneration surveys published by the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations; and
 - productivity improvements and/or efficiency measures outlined in a number of submissions.
4. The Tribunal considers that the increase is necessary to ensure that longer term recruitment and retention difficulties do not arise for the offices in the Tribunal's jurisdiction. Such difficulties could occur if increases granted do not have a degree of alignment with similar positions in the public and private sector.
5. The Tribunal's determination also incorporates an additional 5 per cent increase for Deputy Presidents of the Administrative Appeals Tribunal. This additional increase is based on the breadth and complexity of the work undertaken by Deputy Presidents within the Administrative Appeals Tribunal.
6. In addition to the general increases in remuneration, the Tribunal has increased the allowance payable to Justices of the High Court who do not establish their place of residence in Canberra. This allowance was last adjusted in 1998 and is paid to Justices of the High Court in lieu of daily travel allowances. The change in the allowance, from \$20,000 to \$25,000, recognises the increased number of sitting days of the Court in Canberra and increases in travel allowance rates which would otherwise be payable.

More Information

7. The Determination will be tabled in Parliament, as required by the Legislative Instruments Act 2003. It will also be made available on the Tribunal's website at www.remtribunal.gov.au.

June 2005