

Travel and Motor Vehicle Allowance Rates for Public Office Holders and Parliamentarians STATEMENT

The Remuneration Tribunal has reviewed and updated the domestic travel and related allowance amounts for offices within its jurisdiction, including for judicial offices and parliamentarians. In most cases the rates have increased slightly. The new rates will take effect on 26 August 2018.

The new rates for office holders will be set out in Remuneration Tribunal (Official Travel) Determination 2018. The new rates for parliamentarians will be included in Determination 2017/23 – Members of Parliament (via an amending determination, Remuneration Tribunal (2018/08 Members of Parliament) Amendment Determination 2018.

As in previous years, the travel allowance rates closely reflect the amounts determined each year by the Australian Taxation Office as reasonable travel expense amounts (see *Taxation Determination 2018/11: Income tax: what are the reasonable travel and overtime meal allowance expense amounts for the 2018–19 income year?*).

Motor vehicle allowances have also increased, in line with the ATO's 2018 car expenses cents per kilometre rate, from 66 to 68 cents per kilometre.

The annual Canberra Allowance which is paid in lieu of travel allowance to certain Justices of the High Court has been increased to \$34,400 in line with the modest increase in the travel allowance rate for Canberra. The annual private vehicle running costs reimbursement cap for judges has been increased to \$11,165 in line with movements in the transport component of the Consumer Price Index. These new rates will be included in Remuneration Tribunal (Judicial and Related Offices – Remuneration and Allowances) Determination 2018.

The Tribunal has reviewed, restructured and reformatted the official travel determination, now titled *Remuneration Tribunal (Official Travel)*Determination 2018, to reflect standard Commonwealth drafting practice. These changes will have no impact on the conditions applying to offices in its jurisdiction.

For further information about *Remuneration Tribunal (2018/08 Members of Parliament) Amendment Determination 2018* see its accompanying Reasons for Determination statement.

The Tribunal's determinations and statements will be available on its website - http://www.remtribunal.gov.au/ once they are registered.

Remuneration Tribunal

16 August 2018

Enquiries

Enquiries may be directed to the Tribunal's Media Adviser on (02) 6162 0021 or through enquiry@remtribunal.gov.au.