



REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL

Remuneration Tribunal (Members of Parliament) Determination 2020

REASONS FOR DETERMINATION

Legislative Framework

Sub-section 47(6) of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017* (the PBR Act) requires the Tribunal to notify its reasons for each determination made in relation to members of Parliament to the Minister and to publish those reasons on the Tribunal's website.

What Remuneration Tribunal (Members of Parliament) Determination 2020 Does

Remuneration Tribunal (Members of Parliament) Determination 2020 supersedes and revokes in full *Remuneration Tribunal (Members of Parliament) Determination No.2 2019* which sets out remuneration and allowance provisions for members of Parliament and allowance and expense provisions for former members of Parliament.

Remuneration Tribunal (Members of Parliament) Determination 2020 makes no changes to the provisions in *Remuneration Tribunal (Members of Parliament) Determination No.2 2019*.

Remuneration Tribunal (Members of Parliament) Determination 2020 commences on 1 July 2020.

The Tribunal's Reasons

The Tribunal's obligations under sections 14 and 45 of the PBR Act are to make determinations in respect of remuneration for members of Parliament at least once each year. The Tribunal determined a general adjustment of 2 per cent for all offices in its jurisdiction (including members of Parliament) in June 2019.

The Tribunal completed its inquiries in relation to the remaining remuneration provisions (including electorate allowance) for current members of Parliament, as well as its annual obligation under section 46 of the PBR Act to inquire into and determine the allowances and expenses payable to former members of Parliament, in December 2019. The Tribunal concluded that no changes to these provisions were necessary at this time.

On 11 June 2020 the Tribunal notified its decision to determine no annual adjustment to remuneration for offices in its jurisdiction (including members of parliament) from 1 July 2020. A statement setting out the Tribunal's reason for decision is available at www.remtribunal.gov.au.

Remuneration Tribunal (Members of Parliament) Determination 2020 implements the Tribunal's decisions of 11 June 2020 for members of Parliament.

In considering whether any adjustment should occur, the Tribunal takes account of economic conditions in Australia, past and projected movements in remuneration in the public and private sectors (including the Australian Public Service), as well as the outcomes of reviews of

public offices completed by the Tribunal. In order to inform its conclusions the Tribunal draws upon authoritative external sources such as the published material available from the Government, the Reserve Bank of Australia and the Australian Bureau of Statistics as well as trends in public and private sector remuneration.

As previously stated, while the work performed by the wide variety of offices in the Tribunal's jurisdiction, including members of Parliament, is diverse and unique, the Tribunal is conscious of ensuring that relativities within the group of offices for which it determines remuneration remain consistent.

Consistent with previous decisions the Tribunal maintains the view that the pay of parliamentarians should increase relative to that of the pay of other public office holders, and thus the decision to determine no annual adjustment for the office holders in the Tribunal's jurisdiction generally will also apply to parliamentarians.

On 11 June 2020, the Tribunal also completed its inquiries in relation to the remaining remuneration provisions (including electorate allowance) for current members of Parliament as well as the provisions for former members. The Tribunal concluded that no changes to these provisions were necessary at this time.

The Tribunal's determinations and reports are available on its website - <http://remtribunal.gov.au/>

Remuneration Tribunal

11 June 2020