



Remuneration Tribunal

Remuneration Tribunal (Members of Parliament) Amendment Determination (No.1) 2023

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) Amendment Determination (No.1) 2023 does

Remuneration Tribunal (Members of Parliament) Amendment Determination (No.1) 2023 implements the Remuneration Tribunal's decision to increase remuneration for public offices in its jurisdiction by 4 per cent.

Remuneration Tribunal (Members of Parliament) Amendment Determination (No.1) 2023 increases base salary to be paid to a member of Parliament by 4 per cent (rounded) to \$225,750. The determination makes a corresponding change to the portion of base salary that is not parliamentary allowance for the purposes of the *Parliamentary Contributory Superannuation Act 1948*, by increasing it by 4 per cent (rounded) to \$47,140. These amendments take effect from 1 September 2023.

The determination also amends Schedule B of the principal determination to include a number of localities and their applicable travel allowance rates, which were excluded in error in that determination. This amendment takes effect from 27 August 2023.

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. In order to meet its legislative obligations to make a decision by 12 June 2023, the Tribunal met on 8 June 2023 and decided to defer any adjustment in remuneration for offices in its jurisdiction, including members of Parliament.

On 28 August 2023, the Tribunal decided to determine an increase of 4 per cent to remuneration for offices in its jurisdiction (including members of Parliament). While the increase takes effect from 1 July 2023 for other offices in the Tribunal's jurisdiction, legislative requirements prevent the Tribunal applying a

retrospective increase for members of Parliament. The increase for members of Parliament will take effect from 1 September 2023. A statement setting out the Tribunal's reasons for decision is available at www.remtribunal.gov.au.

Remuneration Tribunal (Members of Parliament) Amendment Determination (No.1) 2023 implements the Tribunal's decision of 28 August 2023 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 other public office holders, and thus the decision to determine an adjustment for the office holders in the Tribunal's jurisdiction generally will also apply to parliamentarians.

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

Remuneration Tribunal

28 August 2023