



Remuneration Tribunal

2026 Review of Remuneration for Holders of Public Office

Statement

Decision

The Remuneration Tribunal has decided to determine no adjustment to remuneration for public offices in its jurisdiction from 1 July 2026.

Reasons

In conducting its review of remuneration, the Tribunal is required to have regard to the national minimum wage orders made by the Fair Work Commission. Consistent with its usual practice, the Tribunal has also considered economic conditions in Australia, as well as past and projected movements in remuneration in the private and public sectors.

The Tribunal notes that recent economic indicators, including higher-than-expected inflation and continued wage growth, would ordinarily support consideration of a modest upward adjustment to remuneration. The Tribunal also recognises that cost of living pressures remain evident.

However, the Tribunal is currently undertaking comprehensive reviews of remuneration arrangements for departmental secretaries and full-time public offices. When announcing these reviews in April 2026, the Tribunal indicated its intention, where practicable, to maintain stability in remuneration settings while this work is underway.

In these circumstances, the Tribunal has decided not to make any change to remuneration across all offices within its jurisdiction at this time. While this approach will result in a reduction in real remuneration, it preserves existing relativities and allows the Tribunal to consider remuneration outcomes in a more integrated and considered manner. This will ensure that future decisions are informed by the findings of the current reviews and reflect a coherent framework across senior Commonwealth offices.

Implementation

Determinations giving effect to the Tribunal's decision will be published on the Tribunal's website following registration on the Federal Register of Legislation.

Background

The Tribunal's obligations under subsections 7(3) and 8(1)(b) of the *Remuneration Tribunal Act 1973* and sections 14 and 45 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017* require it to make determinations on remuneration for various offices within its jurisdiction at intervals of not more than one year. In doing so, the Tribunal must have regard to the outcome of the Fair Work Commission's Annual Wage Review.

The Tribunal last issued principal determinations for all offices in its jurisdiction except Members of Parliament, in July 2025. The Tribunal's obligations under sections 14 and 45 of the *Parliamentary Business Resources Act 2017* require it to inquire into and determine remuneration for current Members of Parliament, and the allowances and expenses to be paid to former members, at least once a year. This annual review satisfies its inquiry obligations.

The decision arising from the Tribunal’s review applies to all offices in the Tribunal’s determinative jurisdiction.

The Tribunal completed its last review of remuneration for public offices in its jurisdiction in June 2025, determining that an adjustment of 2.4% would apply from 1 July 2025. The table below sets out the Tribunal’s general adjustment decisions since 1 July 2017.

Effective Date	Remuneration Tribunal increase
1 July 2017	2.0%
1 July 2018	2.0%
1 July 2019	2.0%
1 July 2020	0.0%
1 July 2021	0.0%
1 July 2022	2.75%
1 July 2023	4.0% (all offices except Members of Parliament)
1 September 2023	4.0% (Members of Parliament)
1 July 2024	3.5%
1 July 2025	2.4%
1 July 2026	0.0%

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Enquiries may be directed to the Tribunal via its Secretariat at enquiry@remtribunal.gov.au