



Remuneration Tribunal
2014 Part-time Office Holder Review
Statement

On 31 October 2013, the Tribunal released a report on its review of Part-time Office Holders. The report was the culmination of an extended review over a number of years and set out the Tribunal's preliminary conclusions and indicative remuneration decisions. The full report can be found on the Tribunal's website www.remtribunal.gov.au.

The Tribunal's objective is to have a remuneration structure that supports the ongoing effectiveness of part-time offices through the attraction of people of capacity and standing, and one that reflects better the levels of responsibility of the offices concerned.

The Tribunal, taking into account the findings of its review, suggested appropriate remuneration models and associated fee structures for its part-time offices (recognising relativities between offices and rationalising remuneration points) and looked to simplify some of the complexities associated with the current part-time provisions.

Further submissions and comments on the report were invited by 31 December 2013, particularly in relation to:

- the placement of offices in the new remuneration structure;
- whether the assigned model fits the activities of the office; and
- whether the new daily payment methodology would be more straightforward for employing bodies to administer.

The Tribunal received a number of submissions and would like to thank all respondents to the review. The time and effort taken to respond and provide further feedback and information is appreciated. The Tribunal has been pleased with the constructive responses and positive way in which the report has been received. The Tribunal has made some decisions on remuneration matters covered in these submissions, while others require further consideration. The Tribunal will be separately writing to each respondent to the review.

As foreshadowed in the report a new part-time determination (Determination 2014/03) will commence with effect from 1 March 2014. This determination will be available on the Tribunal's website once it has been registered on the Federal Register of Legislative Instruments.

Following consideration of feedback received the Tribunal has decided to modify the daily fee model set out in the report. Cognisant of the convenience and cost efficiencies that come with the use of technology (such as video conferencing) in place of face-to-face meetings, and wanting to encourage the use of these opportunities where they are appropriate, Determination 2014/03 retains a two hour period (as well as the three hours referenced in the report) and associated payment on a formal meeting day. This lesser period recognises that where an office holder is not required to attend a formal meeting in person, the call on their time can be reduced, as it need not also involve official travel time.

The Tribunal will be releasing further *Frequently Asked Questions* (FAQs) on its website to provide guidance to office holders and employing bodies about the practical application of the part-time determination.

As highlighted in the report the Tribunal will also be introducing one unspecified daily fee rate from 1 July 2014. Submissions are still being accepted in relation to offices utilising one of the three existing unspecified rates. Bodies currently utilising the unspecified rates are encouraged to make a submission soon.

The Tribunal will commence a rolling review of public offices as part of its continuing work program and will seek submissions in relation to each office at the time it is to be reviewed. The Tribunal will continue to meet with office holders to build on its understanding of how those employing bodies and their offices operate in practice.

Remuneration Tribunal

February 2014

Enquiries

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