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WESTERN AUSTRALIA

SALARIES AND ALLOWANCES TRIBUNAL ACT, 1975

## DETERMINATION OF THE SALARIES AND ALLOWANCES TRIBUNAL

(27th FEBRUARY, 1976)

Mr. K. J. Townsing, C.M.G., I.S.O.	.....	CHAIRMAN
Mr. P. R. Adams, Q.C.	.....	MEMBER
Mr. F. S. Cross, J.P.	.....	MEMBER

**DETERMINATION**  
OF THE  
**SALARIES AND ALLOWANCES TRIBUNAL**  
(27th FEBRUARY, 1976)

**SALARIES**

1. In our Determination of 15 October 1975, we increased the salaries of Members of Parliament, Stipendiary Magistrates, Special Division Officers of the Public Service and persons holding Prescribed Offices by 3·5 per cent which was equivalent to the increase in the Consumer Price Index in the June 1975 quarter and to the adjustment made to award rates by the Australian Conciliation and Arbitration Commission in its Judgment of 18 September 1975.

2. Salaries and wages prescribed in the awards and determinations before the Australian Conciliation and Arbitration Commission, were further increased as from the beginning of the first pay period commencing on or after 15 February 1976, by 6·4 per cent being the increase in the Consumer Price Index of 0·8 per cent for September 1975 quarter and 5·6 per cent for December 1975 quarter.

3. The decision to increase award rates and salaries by 6·4 per cent was taken by the Commission after considering submissions from the unions, private employers, the Commonwealth and the States and therefore, we see no reason why this increase should not be passed on to salary earners within our jurisdiction.

4. Accordingly, the rates per annum of salary resulting from our Determination of 15 October 1975 are to be increased by 6·4 per cent on and from 1 March 1976.

**ELECTORATE ALLOWANCES—MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT**

5. In our Determination of 8 August 1975 we referred to “some dissatisfaction with the existing structure of electorate allowances” and indicated our intention to continue with inquiries into these payments. To this end a questionnaire was sent to all Members of Parliament seeking full details of expenses involved in serving the community within their respective electorates.

6. Replies to the questionnaire reveal that expense under various headings varies considerably even between electorates of comparable size and population but nevertheless, the information supplied was useful in forming a judgment on the provisions which should be made to cover expense reasonably and properly incurred in the performance of a member’s parliamentary duties.

7. The main elements of expense incurred by members are motor vehicle costs (except where a car is provided at Government expense), accommodation expenses, telephone and telegram charges not otherwise reimbursed, donations and subscriptions, hospitality and sundry out-of-pocket expenses. In the case of motor vehicle costs and accommodation expenses particularly, it is apparent that distance from Perth and the size of an electorate will have a bearing on the level of expense which individual members must necessarily incur.

8. In order to allow sufficient scope for recognition of differences between electorates, we have found it necessary to increase the number of zones or groups for Council provinces from four to six and in the case of Assembly districts from four to eight. We have thereby abandoned for the purpose of determining allowances, the previous Tribunal’s method of placing districts in the same group as the province within which they fell because we believe that such a method gives rise to inequities.

9. We have also amended the system used by the previous Tribunal to calculate loadings for Council provinces (paragraph 31 of its 1974 Report), by applying a flat loading of \$600 to all provinces in lieu of a percentage allowance based on the number of districts within a province.

**TRAVELLING ALLOWANCES—MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT**

10. Under the provisions of Part V of our Determination of 8 August 1975, Ministers and certain other Members of Parliament are entitled to travelling allowances at specified rates when travelling on duty within Australia. It has been decided that these allowances shall not apply to travel to, from and within such members’ own electorates as provision has been made for travelling expenses including accommodation costs where appropriate, in the determination of prescribed electorate allowances.

## TRAVEL CONCESSIONS—MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

11. In the 1974 Report of the Parliamentary Salaries Tribunal the general matter of air travel and the "Gold Pass" system was discussed. Although the Tribunal believed it was within its competence to take over the control of members' air travel and road and rail travel as being emoluments within the meaning of the Act, it decided not to do so for the present and contented itself by recommending to the Government that:—

- (a) the "Gold Pass" system be extended to free travel on metropolitan bus services conducted by the Metropolitan (Perth) Passenger Trust.
- (b) the unlimited air travel available to North West members as regards travel to, from and within their electorates and the four return trips a year to the south for their wives, be extended to all members representing electorates within the State served by a regular public scheduled air service subject to such travel not including travel between Perth and any point within 100 miles thereof.
- (c) Members be allowed two return flights per annum to any part of the State other than their electorates or one flight with wife, with 10 days travel allowance at the rate applicable to a Minister.

The Government has approved recommendations (a) and (b) but in the case of (c), has limited the concession to one flight per member each three years on a non-cumulative basis, with 10 days travel allowance.

12. In view of the action taken by the Government, we do not propose at this time to include travel concessions in our Determinations. Indeed, we incline to the view that as these concessions have been administered by the Government in the past, it would be preferable for the Government to continue adjudicating in this field.

## SECRETARIES OF PARLIAMENTARY PARTIES

13. A submission has been made to us that we should recommend an amendment to the Act to make parliamentary party secretaries, Officers of Parliament, so that we could consider payment of extra remuneration to them. In our opinion, this is a matter which the Government is in a better position to judge in the light of its knowledge of the duties required of these members and accordingly, we believe that any amendment to the Act along the lines suggested, should be considered by the Government.

## ANNUAL LEAVE LOADING

14. The Parliamentary Labor Party has sought the extension to Members of Parliament, of the annual leave loading payable to a high proportion of wage and salary earners in Australia.

15. Annual leave loadings were introduced originally by industrial tribunals mainly as compensation for over-award payments and overtime earnings which were denied to employees whilst on leave but these loadings have since been extended to others who normally do not receive over-award or overtime payments. For example, public servants and teachers in the employ of the State Government now benefit from these payments.

16. Although the original basis for granting loadings has been departed from, we do not consider that these payments should be extended to Members of Parliament. They are not State Government employees and their conditions of service in regard to hours of duty, leave entitlements and other benefits are completely different from those prescribed for public servants and others employed by the State. The fact that a particular benefit applies to one group and not another does not in our opinion, establish a case for the general application of that benefit.

## DETERMINATION

17. Our attached Determination which is in two Schedules comes into operation on 1 March 1976 and accordingly, our Determinations of 8 August 1975 and 15 October 1975 are revoked on and from that date.

Dated at Perth this 27th day of February 1976.

K. J. TOWNSING,  
Chairman.

P. R. ADAMS, Q.C.,  
Member.

F. S. CROSS,  
Member.

Salaries and Allowances Tribunal.

## DETERMINATION—FIRST SCHEDULE

Pursuant to the provisions of the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal Act 1975, the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal determines the remuneration to be paid to Ministers of the Crown, the Parliamentary Secretary of the Cabinet, Officers and Members of the Parliament, as hereunder, with effect on and from 1 March 1976.

## PART I—REMUNERATION OF MEMBERS GENERALLY

## Section 1—Basic Salary

There is payable to each member an annual salary calculated at the rate of \$17 807 per annum.

## Section 2—Electorate Allowances

In addition to the basic salary payable to him, there is payable to a member, in respect of the expenses of discharging his duties, an electorate allowance at the appropriate rate specified in the second column of the table set forth hereunder opposite the name of the Electoral Province or Electoral District that the member represents in the House of which he is a member, namely:—

## ELECTORAL PROVINCES

<i>First Column</i> Name of Electoral Province	<i>Second Column</i> Rate of Electorate Allowance Per Annum
	\$
Lower North	9 000
North	9 000
Central	7 500
South	7 500
South-East	7 500
Upper West	7 500
Lower Central	7 200
South West	6 900
Lower West	6 000
West	6 000
Metropolitan	4 800
North Metropolitan	4 800
North-East Metropolitan	4 800
South Metropolitan	4 800
South-East Metropolitan	4 800

## ELECTORAL DISTRICTS

<i>First Column</i> Name of Electoral District	<i>Second Column</i> Rate of Electorate Allowance Per Annum
	\$
Gascoyne	8 400
Kimberley	8 400
Murchison-Eyre	8 400
Pilbara	8 400
Boulder-Dundas	6 900
Greenough	6 900
Merredin-Yilgarn	6 900
Moore	6 900
Mt Marshall	6 900
Roe	6 900
Katanning	6 600
Narrogin	6 600
Stirling	6 600
Warren	6 600
Collie	6 300
Kalgoorlie	6 300
Vasse	6 300
Wellington	6 300
Albany	6 000
Bunbury	6 000
Geraldton	6 000
Avon	5 400
Murray	5 400
Toodyay	5 400
Dale	4 800
Kalamunda	4 800
Mundaring	4 800
Rockingham	4 800
Ascot	4 200
Balga	4 200
Canning	4 200
Clontarf	4 200
Cockburn	4 200
Cottesloe	4 200
East Melville	4 200
Floreat	4 200
Fremantle	4 200
Karrinyup	4 200
Maylands	4 200
Melville	4 200
Morley	4 200
Mount Hawthorn	4 200
Mount Lawley	4 200
Nedlands	4 200
Perth	4 200
Scarborough	4 200
South Perth	4 200
Subiaco	4 200
Swan	4 200
Victoria Park	4 200
Welshpool	4 200

## PART II—REMUNERATION OF MINISTERS OF THE CROWN

1. In addition to the remuneration payable by virtue of Part I of this Determination, there is payable—

- (a) to the person for the time being holding the office of Premier in conjunction with a ministerial office, a salary calculated at the rate of \$20 478 per annum.
- (b) to the person for the time being holding the office of Deputy Premier in conjunction with a ministerial office, a salary calculated at the rate of \$15 582 per annum.
- (c) to the person for the time being holding the office of Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council in conjunction with a ministerial office, a salary calculated at the rate of \$13 799 per annum;
- (d) to each person, not being a person referred to in subparagraph (a), (b) or (c) of this paragraph, for the time being holding a ministerial office, a salary calculated at the rate of \$11 574 per annum.

2. If a person holds more ministerial offices than one, he shall be paid a salary under this Part in respect of one only of those offices.

PART III—REMUNERATION OF OFFICERS OF PARLIAMENT  
AND THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY OF THE CABINET

1. In addition to the remuneration payable to him by virtue of Part I of this Determination there is payable to the person for the time being holding the office specified in the first column of the table hereunder a salary of the amount and at the rate specified in the second column thereof, namely:—

<i>First Column</i> Office	<i>Second Column</i> Salary Per Annum
	\$
President of the Legislative Council	4 807
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly	4 807
Chairman of Committees in either House	2 406
Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Council	2 846
Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Assembly	7 125
Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Assembly	2 846
Parliamentary Secretary of the Cabinet	2 846
Government Whip in the Legislative Council	1 426
Opposition Whip in the Legislative Council	1 426
Government Whip in the Legislative Assembly	2 048
Opposition Whip in the Legislative Assembly	2 048
The person who not being a Minister of the Crown is the Leader of a party in the Legislative Assembly of at least seven members other than a party whose leader is the Premier or the Leader or Deputy Leader of the Opposition	1 068
The person who is the Whip in the Legislative Council or the Legislative Assembly of a party of at least seven members other than a party whose leader is the Premier or the Leader of the Opposition, and the first mentioned party in the case of the Whip in the Legislative Council has seven members or more in that House or in the case of the Whip in the Legislative Assembly has seven or more members in that House	358

2. Where the Legislative Assembly is dissolved or expires by effluxion of time, a person who is the Parliamentary Secretary of the Cabinet or is the holder of the office of:—

- (a) Chairman of Committees in that House;
- (b) Leader of the Opposition in that House;
- (c) Deputy Leader of the Opposition in that House;
- (d) Government Whip in that House;
- (e) Opposition Whip in that House; or
- (f) Third Party Whip in that House

is entitled, notwithstanding the dissolution or expiry of that House, to receive the salary payable to him by virtue of paragraph 1 of this Part and the allowance, if any, payable to him under Part IV of this Determination until the date fixed for the taking of the poll next following the dissolution or expiry of that House.

Provided that the person holding the office of:—

- (a) Leader of the Opposition in that House; or
- (b) Deputy leader of the Opposition in that House,

shall if re-elected at such poll, continue to receive the salary payable to him by virtue of paragraph 1 of this Part and the allowance, if any, payable to him under Part IV of this Determination until such time as the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly is notified in writing that a change has taken place in the holder of such office; or, in the event of a change of Government as a result of such poll, until such time as the new Government is commissioned to take office.

On the resignation of the Government, as a result of such poll—

- (a) The Leader of that Government; and
- (b) The Deputy Leader of that Government; or
- (c) in the case where that Government was made up of two or more parties the leader and Deputy Leader of the Party in that Government with the greater number of members,

shall in each case, if himself re-elected at such poll, commence to receive and continue to receive the salary payable to the Leader of the Opposition or the Deputy Leader of the Opposition, as the case may be, under paragraph 1 of this Part and the allowance, if any, payable to him under Part IV, until such time as the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly is notified in writing that a change has taken place in the holder of such office.

#### PART IV—EXPENSE ALLOWANCES

In addition to the remuneration payable under Parts I, II and III of this Determination there shall be payable to the holders for the time being of the following offices the following allowances, namely:—

Office occupied by the Member of Parliament	Allowance Per Annum
	\$
Premier	2 600
Deputy Premier	1 300
Leader of the Government in The Legislative Council	1 300
Ministers of the Crown (other than the Premier, Deputy Premier, and the Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council)	900
Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Assembly	900
President of the Legislative Council	650
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly	650
Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Council	450
Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Assembly	450
Parliamentary Secretary of the Cabinet	450
The person who not being a Minister of the Crown is the leader in the Legislative Assembly of a party of at least seven members other than a party whose respective leaders are the Premier and the Leader or Deputy Leader of the Opposition	450
Chairman of Committees in the Legislative Council	325
Chairman of Committees in the Legislative Assembly	325

#### PART V—TRAVELLING ALLOWANCES

1. There shall be payable to the Premier, a Minister of the Crown, an Honorary Minister and the Parliamentary Secretary of the Cabinet, when travelling within Australia on official duty, but not when travelling to, from and within his own electorate, who actually incurs expense in securing overnight accommodation at a place situated outside a radius of 50 kilometres from Perth, by way of reimbursement a travelling allowance at the following rate:—

- Premier ..... \$50 per day
- Other Minister, Honorary Minister and Parliamentary Secretary of the Cabinet ..... \$40 per day

Provided that in lieu of the above allowances:—

- (a) When travelling in a ministerial railway coach, all costs reasonably and properly incurred shall be reimbursed.
- (b) When travelling by train (not in a ministerial coach) or by ship, the allowance shall be fifteen dollars (\$15) per day.

Provided further that where the costs of such travelling reasonably and properly incurred exceed the above allowances the actual costs shall be reimbursed.

2. The Deputy Premier when travelling within Australia on duty representing the Premier but not when travelling to, from and within his own electorate, shall be entitled to the same allowances as the Premier.

3. The Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Council, and the Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Assembly, when (in either case) travelling within Australia on duty as such Leader but not when travelling to, from and within their own electorates, shall be entitled to the same allowances as a Minister; and so also shall the Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Assembly when travelling within Australia on duty whether for and in the place of the Leader, or as such Deputy Leader only.

4. A member (not being a Minister), when travelling on duty within Australia as an official representative of the Government or the Parliament, or as an official member of a Government or Parliamentary committee or delegation including a member of a Select Committee of a House or a Joint Select Committee of Houses but not when travelling to, from and within his own electorate, shall be entitled to the same allowances as a Minister.

#### PART VI—POSTAGE ALLOWANCES

There shall be payable to Members of Parliament and to the undermentioned Officers of Parliament (except Ministers and any Others whose mail is sent free of charge to them in a manner similar to the mail of Ministers) a postage allowance as follows:—

Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Assembly	\$780 per annum in addition to his allowance as a Member of Parliament.
Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Council	\$630 per annum in addition to his allowance as a Member of Parliament.
Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Assembly	\$630 per annum in addition to his allowance as a Member of Parliament.
The person who not being a Minister of the Crown is the Leader of a party in the Legislative Assembly of at least seven members, other than a party whose Leader is the Premier or the Leader or Deputy Leader of the Opposition	\$330 per annum in addition to his allowance as a Member of Parliament.
Member of Parliament whose electoral province or district is in the Metropolitan area	\$470 per annum.
Other Members of Parliament	\$690 per annum

Provided that each of the above allowances is to be adjusted proportionately in accordance with any percentage variation after 1 March 1976 in the basic minimum first class letter rate as fixed by the Australian Postal Commission, rounded, however to the nearest upper \$10 per annum; such increase to operate from the date on which such increased postal rates commence.

#### PART VII—TELEPHONE RENTAL AND CALLS

1. Every Member of Parliament (other than Ministers, the President of the Legislative Council, the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, the Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Assembly and the Chairmen of Committees, and any others whose private telephone rentals and calls are paid in full from public funds) shall be entitled to receive, as an allowance or emolument, payment to him by way of reimbursement, of the full rental and 75 per centum of all charges for calls incurred by him in respect of a telephone in his private residence, or, where he reasonably maintains more than one residence by reason of his membership of Parliament, in each such residence.

2. Every Member of Parliament provided with an electorate office shall be entitled to receive, as an allowance or emolument, payment to him, by way of reimbursement, of the full rental and 75 per centum of all charges for calls incurred by him in respect of a telephone in his electorate office and an extension of the same telephone to his private residence.

3. Insofar as a Member of Parliament pays or is charged with any telephone calls made by him from Parliament House, he shall be entitled to receive, as an allowance or emolument, payment to him by way of reimbursement of all such charges.

4. In this Part, "calls" include all charges (other than international calls or telegrams) as usually included on Postal Commission accounts rendered to subscribers.



PART II—REMUNERATION OF OFFICERS OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE  
IN THE SPECIAL DIVISION OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE

Rate Per Annum of Salary

	\$
Chief Executive Officer, Road Traffic Authority	28 699
Commissioner of State Taxation	28 699
Deputy Under Treasurer	28 699
Director of Administration, Medical and Health Services	28 699
General Manager and Secretary, Metropolitan Water Board	28 699
General Manager, State Government Insurance Office	28 699
General Manager, State Housing Commission	28 699
Surveyor General, Department of Lands and Surveys	28 699
Under Secretary for Labour and Industry	28 699
Under Secretary for Lands	28 699
Under Secretary for Law	28 699
Under Secretary for Mines	28 699
Under Secretary for Works	28 699
Under Secretary, Premier's Department	28 699
Chief Engineer, Metropolitan Water Board	29 640
Town Planning Commissioner	29 640
Crown Solicitor, Crown Law Department	30 581
Director of Community Welfare	30 581
Principal Architect, Public Works Department	30 581
Parliamentary Counsel, Crown Law Department	31 523
Commissioner of Public Health	32 464
Co-ordinator of Industrial Development	32 464
Director General of Education	32 464
Director General of Medical Services	32 464
Director, Mental Health Services	32 464
Director of Agriculture	32 464
Director of Engineering, Public Works Department	32 464
Under Treasurer	32 464

PART III—REMUNERATION OF PERSONS HOLDING PRESCRIBED OFFICES

Rate Per Annum of Salary

	\$
Administrator, Royal Perth Hospital	28 699
Deputy Chairman, Public Service Board	28 699
Commissioner, Public Service Board	28 699
Assistant Commissioners (2 positions) Main Roads Department	28 699
Assistant Commissioners (2 positions) State Energy Commission	28 699
General Manager, Fremantle Port Authority	28 699
General Manager, Midland Junction Abattoir Board	28 699
General Manager, Totalisator Agency Board	28 699
General Manager, W.A. Coastal Shipping Commission	28 699
General Manager, W.A. Meat Export Works	28 699
Parliamentary Commissioner for Administrative Investigations	28 699
Public Service Arbitrator	28 699
State Librarian, Library Board of W.A.	28 699
Director of Environmental Protection	29 640
Commissioner of Police	30 581
Auditor General	31 523
Chief Industrial Commissioner, W.A. Industrial Commission	31 523
Chairman, Metropolitan (Perth) Passenger Transport Trust	32 464
Chairman, Public Service Board	32 464
Chairman of Commissioners, Rural and Industries Bank	32 464
Commissioner of Main Roads	32 464
Commissioner, State Energy Commission	32 464
Conservator of Forests	32 464
Director General of Transport	32 464
Commissioner of Railways	34 991

Dated at Perth this 27th day of February, 1976.

K. J. TOWNSING,  
Chairman.

P. R. ADAMS, Q.C.,  
Member.

F. S. CROSS,  
Member.

Salaries and Allowances Tribunal.