



Remuneration Tribunal

2016 Review of Remuneration for Judicial and Related Offices

Statement

This Statement concludes the Tribunal's formal review of offices covered by the *Judicial and Related Offices Remuneration and Allowances Determination*.

Decision

An increase of 4.8 per cent will apply to all judicial offices effective from 1 January 2017. This includes Judges of the High Court, the Federal Court, the Family Court and the Federal Circuit Court.

There will be no general increase applied to non-judicial offices as a result of the review. The Tribunal is considering remuneration for these offices on a case by case basis as updated information on the roles and responsibilities of individual offices is received.

The Tribunal is consulting on, and will issue, a streamlined and simplified determination during 2017.

Background

The Tribunal's 4 October 2016 [Interim Statement](#) provides context to the finalisation of this review. That statement sets out the manner in which the Tribunal has conducted the review, the general remuneration environment and the Tribunal's preliminary conclusions.

The submissions that the Tribunal received in the course of the review are now available on the Tribunal's [website](#).

The Tribunal thanks all those who contributed to the review.

As set out in the Interim Statement, the Tribunal acknowledges that the complexity and work intensity of judges has increased since the Tribunal's last comprehensive review of the judicial and related offices jurisdiction in 2001-2002.

At the same time remuneration for judges has not kept pace with economic indicators and remuneration/wage movements in the private and public sectors. The Tribunal has also been concerned about the growing disparity in relativities with some State judicial remuneration, particularly in New South Wales and Western Australia.

As noted in its Interim Statement, the Tribunal's view is that the existing relativities between the judges of the various federal courts, including the High Court of Australia, set some time ago, and adjusted by changes to the Federal Circuit Court, should remain.

A 4.8 per cent increase recognises the increased complexities faced by judges and goes some way to restoring relativities, in an environment of continued economic and wages restraint.

The Tribunal does not expect to determine a general increase to remuneration for other public offices in its jurisdiction until mid-2017.

Remuneration Tribunal

28 November 2016
