



ANDREW BARR MLA
CHIEF MINISTER OF THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

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Member for Molonglo

Ms Anne Cahill Lambert
Chair
ACT Remuneration Tribunal
PO Box 964
CIVIC SQUARE ACT 2608

Dear Ms Cahill Lambert *Anne*

Thank you for your letter of 7 June 2016 and associated discussion paper about the ACT Remuneration Tribunal's Review of Remuneration Allowances and Other Entitlements of Part Time Public Office Holders (PTPOHs) in the ACT Government.

The Government recognises the considerable contribution that PTPOHs make in their respective fields for the benefit of their Community. Their dedication and passion for the work exemplifies public service in its truest form.

I note with interest the important question of pay parity between PTPOHs and their associated entities raised in the Tribunal's Discussion paper of May 2016. The government supports the Tribunal's methodological usage of work value assessment and pay comparisons to make sound and supported remuneration decisions.

The discussion paper raises the interesting issue of the historically lower rates of remuneration for those PTPOHs engaged by entities with a stronger community, rather than economic, focus.

The Government recognises this line of investigation is worthwhile to unpick any historical bias towards entities carrying the greatest financial risk. I would, however, caution against labelling any entity as purely 'economic' or 'non-economic' and instead would acknowledge

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the complex interplay between strong economic outcomes and the resulting benefits for the community and vice versa.

The Government welcomes the in-depth approach the Tribunal is taking to reviewing the current entity categorisation model. I am confident that any changes the Tribunal makes to this model will enhance transparency and increase the level of trust that the public can place in the process of remunerating PTPOHs using public funds.

The Tribunal makes an important observation on many PTPOHs' motivation to 'give back' to their community. It is the Government's view that PTPOHs' remuneration should reflect and balance the expectation of pay and entitlements with the acknowledged, non financial, benefits of contributing one's time and expertise for the benefit of the ACT Community.

Strong budget management in recent years has ensured a better future for Canberra through a return to balanced budgets. It is the Government's view that any increase in the rate of allowances or entitlements for PTPOHs should be consistent with community expectations and standards. For this reason, I ask that the Tribunal moderate any adjustments to align with those seen in the ACT Public Service in recent years.

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission. I look forward to learning the Tribunal's findings once the review has been completed.

Yours sincerely



Andrew Barr MLA
Chief Minister

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