



ANDREW BARR MLA
CHIEF MINISTER OF THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

Treasurer
Minister for Economic Development
Minister for Urban Renewal
Minister for Tourism and Events

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 2 August 2016, and the opportunity to make a submission to the Remuneration Tribunal's annual review of remuneration, entitlements and allowances for members of the judiciary and part-time holders of public office.

In making determinations this year, I kindly request that the Tribunal keep in mind cuts in Commonwealth Government spending and payments made to the ACT in recent years. While indications suggest that the most significant cuts are behind us, the Territory will continue to feel the ramifications of previous budgets for years to come. Of particular note, the implications of the Asbestos Eradication Scheme will result in the Territory paying interest to the Commonwealth on a \$1 billion loan over the next 10 years.

The Territory's budget remains in deficit but the ACT 2016-17 Budget forecasts a return to surplus from 2019-20 onwards. To achieve this, the Territory must ensure that spending remains targeted and appropriate. The Government's priority is serving the Canberra community and that is why in the Government's most recent budget, we made the commitment to invest in services and jobs for the Territory's residents. The Government recognises that investing in services and jobs will result in strong economic growth for the future.

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

London Circuit, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia GPO Box 1020, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia
Phone + 61 2 6205 0011 Fax + 61 2 6205 0157 Email barr@act.gov.au



In providing this submission, I do not wish to diminish the important work of our judiciary and other officials, often in difficult circumstances. It is the Government's view that any adjustments to the remuneration, allowances and entitlements should be consistent with community expectations, community standards and the impact that they may have on the Territory's budget. I should like to bring to the Tribunal's attention the ACT Public Service Administrative and Related Classifications Enterprise Agreement 2013-2017 which awards two separate 1.5 per cent increases in the 2016-17 financial year.

It is the Government's view that any increases in remuneration for the judiciary and other public officials should be consistent with, and not exceed, the increases for staff in the public service over the last few years.

Thank you for providing me with the opportunity to put forward a submission.

Yours sincerely



Andrew Barr MLA
Chief Minister

02 SEP 2016