

Administrative expenditure that is eligible for parliamentary allowances

Electoral Disclosure and Funding Act 2023

This guideline is issued under section 173(1) of the *Electoral Disclosure and Funding Act 2023*, which allows the Tasmanian Electoral Commission to issue guidelines for any matters dealt with in the Act.

Guideline

In determining claims for payment from the Administration Fund, the Tasmanian Electoral Commission will not consider expenditure to be eligible for payment if:

- an independent House of Assembly member may claim the expenditure under a parliamentary allowance as a member, or
- an endorsed House of Assembly member (or their party agent on their behalf) may claim the expenditure under a parliamentary allowance for the endorsed member.

This exclusion applies regardless of whether the member actually claims or intends to claim the expenditure under a parliamentary allowance.

Any independent House of Assembly member or party agent submitting an Administration Fund quarterly payment claim will be required to sign a statutory declaration confirming that they have not claimed funding for any administrative expenditure for which they may claim a parliamentary allowance as a member.

House of Assembly members are provided parliamentary entitlements via the *Parliamentary Salaries, Superannuation and Allowances Act 2012*. Allowances are provided for staff, office accommodation, equipment, facilities and other resources provided to assist a member in the performance of their duties, and for expenses that members incur in the course of representing the Tasmanian Parliament or House of Assembly.

The following allowances are set out in the *Parliamentary Salaries, Superannuation and Allowances Act 2012* and are administered by the Parliament:

- Motor Vehicle Allowance
- Electorate Allowance
- Committee Sitting Fees
- Telecommunications Allowance
- Entertainment Allowance
- Away From Home Travelling Allowance
- Bass Strait Islands Travelling Allowance
- Taxi Allowance

In determining whether expenditure may be claimed as a parliamentary allowance by a member, the Tasmanian Electoral Commission may refer to the *Parliamentary Salaries, Superannuation and Allowances Act 2012* or any other official material that describes allowances.

In assessing a claim for payment from the Administration Fund, the Tasmanian Electoral Commission will need to be satisfied that expenditure is not excluded under section 14(c)(ii) of the *Electoral Disclosure and Funding Act 2023* and it may request additional information from the claimant to satisfy itself that the expenditure claimed may not be claimed as a parliamentary allowance.

This applies to all claims from the Administration Fund from eligible registered parties and House of Assembly members, made in accordance with the following parts of the *Electoral Disclosure and Funding Act 2023*:

- Section 14 – Meaning of Assembly administrative expenditure
- Part 12 – Administrative Funding for Assembly