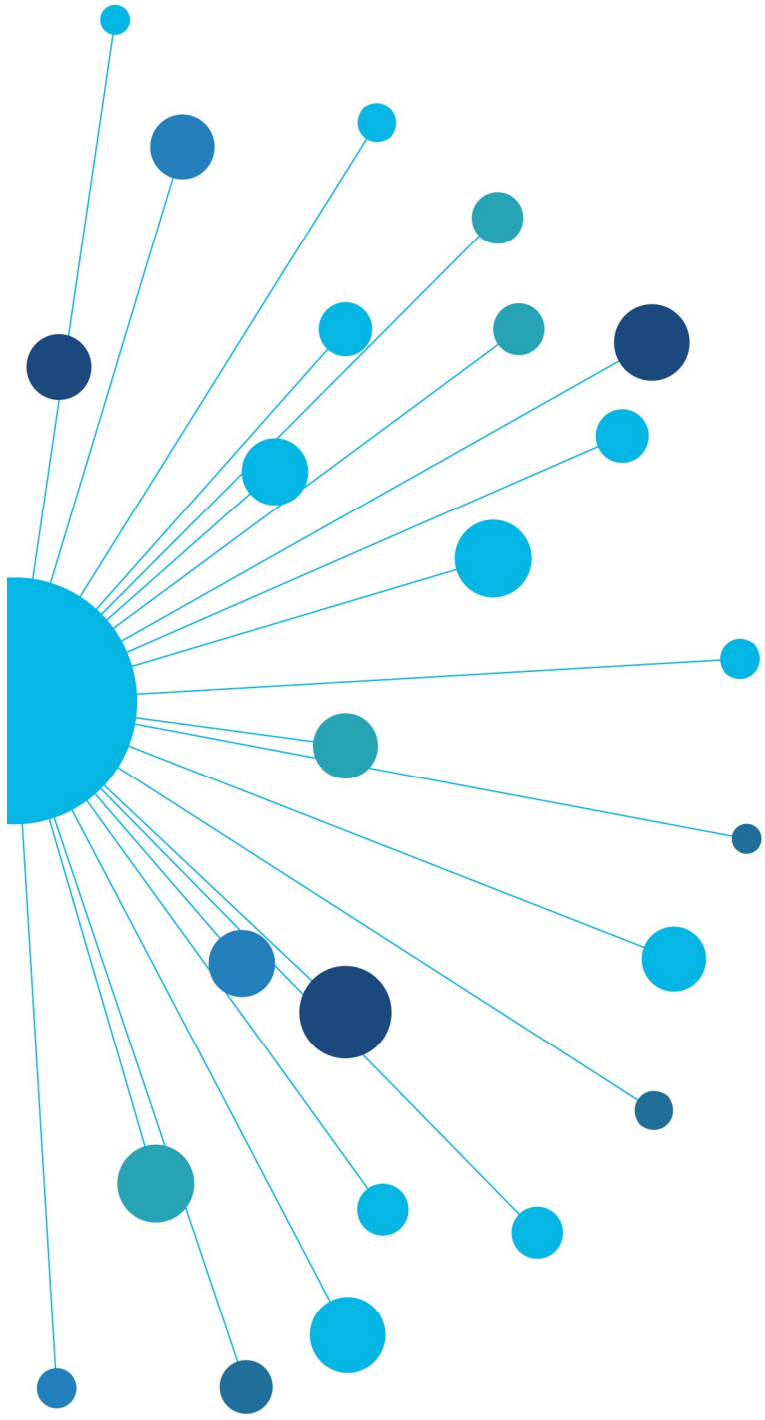
Queensland Independent
Remuneration Tribunal



Remuneration Determination

Electorate and Communication Allowance Band Adjustment 2026

Determination 39/2026

2 November 2026

Determination 39/2026 Background and Reasons

Tribunal roles and responsibilities

The *Queensland Independent Remuneration Tribunal Act 2013* (the Act) provides for the Queensland Independent Remuneration Tribunal (the Tribunal) to:

- review and determine remuneration (annual and additional salaries, allowances and entitlements) in connection with members and former members of the Queensland Legislative Assembly (Remuneration Determination), and
- review and determine entitlements of cross bench members to additional staff members (Additional Staff Member Determination).

For a Remuneration Determination, the Tribunal may have regard to the value to the community of a member of the Legislative Assembly (member) carrying out their role, functions and responsibilities and the importance of a member being appropriately remunerated for carrying out their role. The Tribunal may also consider relevant laws and any other matters the Tribunal considers appropriate including, for example, the size of an electorate (section 29 of the Act). Before making a Determination, the Tribunal must consult with and consider the views of the Clerk of the Parliament (the Clerk).

The Tribunal must ensure any allowances paid to a member reflect the amount of reasonable expenses incurred by a member in servicing their electorate; ensure these allowances are not a substitute for other remuneration; and ensure accommodation services or other entitlements provided for in section 55 of the Act are not taken into account, such as electorate offices, staffing support and major items of office equipment (section 30 of the Act).

Electorate and Communication Allowance

Electorate and Communication Allowance

The Electorate and Communication Allowance (ECA) is provided to cover a range of expenditure associated with:

- providing constituent assistance and service for the electorate
- obtaining and disseminating information to constituents that is relevant to fulfilling parliamentary and constituency responsibilities
- meeting incidental costs relating to the operation of a member's electorate office.

The ECA may not be used to meet expenditure for:

- private or commercial purposes or to purchase goods and services where the member, or a connected party is the provider of the goods and services
- political party activity
- electioneering and campaigning purposes.

ECA bands and electoral roll data

Electorates are grouped into four bands based on the following formula which recognises the impacts of both the number of electors and area of the electorate on usage of the ECA:

Band = (60 points per person registered on the electoral roll[1]) + (1.5 points per square kilometre of electorate area (land only)).

The quantum of ECA for each band (set in Determination 38/2026) is shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Quantum of ECA per ECA Band

Band	Quantum of ECA for each band
1	$106,175
2	$108,220
3	$111,063
4	$113,905

Electoral roll data

The Tribunal has previously determined to annually review the allocation of electorates to ECA bands based on changes in electoral roll data over a 12-month period using an average of quarterly electoral roll data (September 2025, December 2025, March 2026, June 2026).

Between 1 July 2025 and 30 June 2026, an additional 63,665 voters have been added to the State electoral roll, equating to an increase of 1.7% in voters.

Based on quarterly average enrolment data over 2025-26, electorates would move bands as follows:

- Band 1 to Band 2 – Southport
- Band 2 to Band 3 – Glass House, Hinchinbrook, Nicklin and Southern Downs.

The adjustment for these electorates results in the shift of electorates across ECA bands as at Table 2.

Table 2: Shift in electorates across ECA bands

Band	Quantum of ECA	No. of electorates at 1 July 2025	No. of electorates at 30 June 2026
1	$106,175	12	11
2	$108,220	29	26
3	$111,063	40	44
4	$113,905	12	12

[1] Note: weighted enrolment figures are used in the ECA formula for electorates over 100,000km^2. Definition of weighted enrolment as per the Electoral Commission Queensland - enrolment numbers for electoral districts with an area of 100,000 km^2 or more (Cook, Gregory, Traeger and Warrego) include an 'additional large district number' as specified under section 45 of the *Electoral Act 1992*. An additional 'notional' elector is added to the total enrolment for every two per cent of the area of the electorate. The deviation from the average enrolment for these electorates is based on the 'weighted enrolment' figure, rather than the total number of enrolled electors.

The Tribunal has decided to re-allocate the electorates of Glass House, Hinchinbrook, Nicklin, Southern Downs and Southport to the appropriate ECA bands based on 2025-26 enrolment data as per Table 3.

Table 3 – Re-allocated electorates to ECA bands based on 2025-26 enrolment data

Band	ECA Amount	Electorates in each Band
1	$106,175	Chatsworth, Gaven, Mansfield, Miller, Moggill, Mount Ommaney, Mundingburra, Oodgeroo, Springwood, Stretton, Toohey
2	$108,220	Bonney, Broadwater, Bundaberg, Burdekin, Burleigh, Carins, Callide, Capalaba, Cooper, Currumbin, Ferny Grove, Gladstone, Greenslopes, Inala, Maroochydore, Mermaid Beach, Mirani, Noosa, Rockhampton, Sandgate, **Southport**, Surfers Paradise, Theodore, Thuringowa, Townsville, Whitsunday
3	$111,063	Algester, Aspley, Bancroft, Barron River, Buderim, Bulimba, Burnett, Clayfield, Condamine, Everton, **Glass House**, Hill, **Hinchinbrook**, Ipswich, Ipswich West, Kawana, Keppel, Kurwongbah, Lockyer, Lytton, Macalister, McConnel, Mackay, Maiwar, Maryborough, Morayfield, Mudgeeraba, Mulgrave, Nanango, **Nicklin**, Ninderry, Nudgee, Pine Rivers, Pumicestone, Redcliffe, Redlands, Scenic Rim, South Brisbane, **Southern Downs**, Stafford, Toowoomba North, Toowoomba South, Waterford, Woodridge
4	$113,905	Bundamba, Caloundra, Cook, Coomera, Gregory, Gympie, Hervey Bay, Jordan, Logan, Murrumba, Traeger, Warrego

Quantum of the ECA bands

The Tribunal is currently reviewing the appropriateness of the quantum of the ECA as part of the annual review of the allowances system, taking into consideration feedback received from the Clerk and members, as well as the annual acquittal and expenditure data for the 2025-26 period.

Additionally, the Tribunal is undertaking a more substantive review of the formula used to calculate the ECA. The review will consider whether the current formula (which was developed over 10 years ago) remains relevant and sufficiently flexible to deal with changes in demographics, technologies and the demands placed upon Members. This review will continue in 2027.

Determination 39/2026

Any inconsistencies between earlier Tribunal Determinations and Determination 39/2026 are resolved in favour of Determination 39/2026. Matters in earlier Determinations not addressed in this Determination are confirmed by the Tribunal and not amended.

Electorate and Communication Allowance

1. The Tribunal determines that the Electorate and Communication Allowance bands, band amounts and allocation of electorates in each band, as set out in the table below, will apply with effect from 1 July 2026:

Band	ECA Amount	Electorates in each Band
1	$106,175	Chatsworth, Gaven, Mansfield, Miller, Moggill, Mount Ommaney, Mundingburra, Oodgeroo, Springwood, Stretton, Toohey
2	$108,220	Bonney, Broadwater, Bundaberg, Burdekin, Burleigh, Carins, Callide, Capalaba, Cooper, Currumbin, Ferny Grove, Gladstone, Greenslopes, Inala, Maroochydore, Mermaid Beach, Mirani, Noosa, Rockhampton, Sandgate, Southport, Surfers Paradise, Theodore, Thuringowa, Townsville, Whitsunday
3	$111,063	Algester, Aspley, Bancroft, Barron River, Buderim, Bulimba, Burnett, Clayfield, Condamine, Everton, Glass House, Hill, Hinchinbrook, Ipswich, Ipswich West, Kawana, Keppel, Kurwongbah, Lockyer, Lytton, Macalister, McConnel, Mackay, Maiwar, Maryborough, Morayfield, Mudgeeraba, Mulgrave, Nanango, Nicklin, Ninderry, Nudgee, Pine Rivers, Pumicestone, Redcliffe, Redlands, Scenic Rim, South Brisbane, Southern Downs, Stafford, Toowoomba North, Toowoomba South, Waterford, Woodridge
4	$113,905	Bundamba, Caloundra, Cook, Coomera, Gregory, Gympie, Hervey Bay, Jordan, Logan, Murrumba, Traeger, Warrego

Date of Determination: 2 November 2026
Effective Date: 1 July 2026

Kirsty Chessher-Brown
Chairperson

Jim Varghese
Member

Michael Hickey
Member