

**STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICES REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL
REPORT AND DETERMINATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 14(2) OF THE ACT
REPORT:**

1. On 21 May 2012 the Premier requested the Statutory and Other Offices Remuneration Tribunal (the Tribunal) to make a determination in respect of the remuneration payable to the office of the Mental Health Commissioner.
2. The Premier advised that the *Statutory and Other Offices Remuneration Act 1975* (the SOOR Act) will be amended to include this new office in the list in Schedule 2 when the *Mental Health Commission Act 2012* (MHC Act) is proclaimed on 2 July 2012. This is a new position and the Tribunal has not previously made a determination on the remuneration payable for this office.
3. The Mental Health Commission (MHC) is an independent statutory authority established under the MHC Act. The MHC is being established to deliver the strategic direction for mental health in NSW to ensure services are appropriately designed and targeted. The MHC will also review, monitor and report to the Government, the Parliament and the public on how funds are being used. As broadly outlined in the legislation the MHC will undertake the following functions and responsibilities:
 - prepare a draft strategic plan for the mental health system
 - monitor and report on the implementation of the approved strategic plan
 - review, evaluate, report and advise on mental health services
 - promote and facilitate sharing of knowledge and ideas
 - undertake and commission research
 - advocate for and promote the general health and wellbeing of people with a mental illness, and
 - educate the community about mental health issues.
4. The Mental Health Commissioner is required to prepare for the Government's consideration a draft strategic plan for the mental health system in NSW. This includes the full range of services and supports provided across government, including housing, education and those in the criminal justice system.
5. The Commissioner will undertake the role of Chief Executive Officer of the organisation and will set the strategic and operational direction, in consultation

**STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICES REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL
REPORT AND DETERMINATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 14(2) OF THE ACT
REPORT:**

with the Minister and in line with the objectives of the MHC Act, of the organisation. The Commissioner will ensure the efficient management of MHC's operational functions and compliance with relevant public sector policies, standards and relevant statutory requirements. The Commissioner will play a key role in establishing the MHC and will be responsible for delivering on the initiatives outlined in the MHC Act. The Commissioner will also be a champion for mental health in NSW and the recommendations of the MHC are likely to have broad budget implications.

6. In determining the remuneration for this position the Tribunal has had regard to an independent job evaluation of the position, and also to other comparators. In the result, the Tribunal is of the view that the Mental Health Commissioner should receive an annual salary of \$272,000 per annum and so determines. The Tribunal's determination will take effect from the date of the commencement of the *Mental Health Commission Act 2012*, which is expected to be 2 July 2012.

DETERMINATION:

Pursuant to section 14(2) of the Statutory and Other Offices Remuneration Act 1975 the Tribunal determines that the office of Mental Health Commissioner shall receive a salary of \$272,000 per annum with effect from 2 July 2012.

**Statutory and Other Offices
Remuneration Tribunal**

(signed)

Helen Wright
1 June 2012