

17<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Mr Rick Crump  
Clerk of the House of Assembly  
Parliament House  
ADELAIDE SA 5000

CLERK'S OFFICE  
17 JUL 2020  
HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

*Noted  
Arrange invoice  
For Payment  
17/7/20*

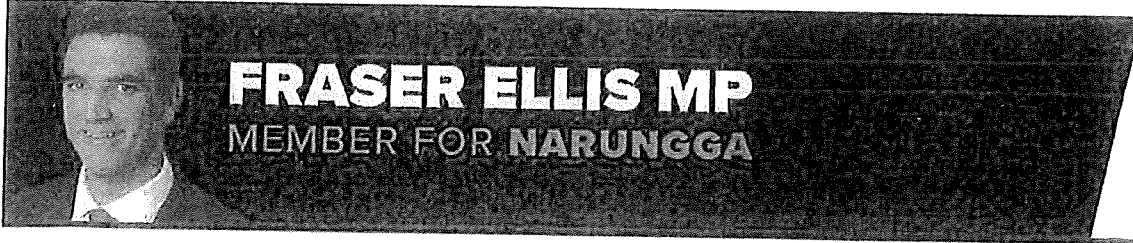
Dear Mr Clerk,

Since my election as the Member for Narungga in March 2018 I have received the Country Members' Allowance pursuant to the Determination of the South Australian Remuneration Tribunal, Accommodation and Meal Allowances for Ministers of the Crown and Officers and Members of Parliament.

On my election Determination No 13 of 2017 applied to this allowance. It provided that a Member of either House of Parliament whose usual place of residence is more than 75 kilometers by road from the General Post Office at Adelaide (as my residence is), and who is required to stay in Adelaide overnight in order to attend not only to parliamentary duties but also to the Member's duty to be actively involved in community affairs and to represent and assist constituents in dealing with governmental and other public agencies and authorities, shall be paid an accommodation allowance of \$225 for each night up to a maximum of 135 nights per annum. The Members' Handbook I received on my election reflected the wording of Determination No 13 of 2017. That is the basis upon which I have submitted each of my claims.

I have recently become aware that on 28 November 2018 the Tribunal, by Determination No 12 of 2018, inserted the words "and incurs actual expenditure" into the Determination. I note that the Tribunal did not receive any submissions in respect of that Determination, and, to the best of my recollection I was not informed of it.

Immediately on becoming aware of the change in the terms of the Determination I conducted a review of my claims, and sought and received legal advice. Consequent upon that advice I believe



that, given the ambiguity in the terms of the Determination, the claims I have made since 28 November 2018 may not fall within the terms of Determination No 12 of 2018.

In order to assure myself that I have complied with Determination No 12 of 2018, I withdraw each of the claims that I have made since 28 November 2018. I would be grateful if you would review each of the withdrawn claims and assist me to expeditiously repay the amount of money I received.

I wish to assure you that at all times I was acting under the genuine belief that my claims qualified for the allowance.

Thank you for your assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Fraser Ellis MP

Member for Narungga



**HON STEPHAN KNOLL MP**  
MEMBER FOR SCHUBERT

Mr Rick Crump  
Clerk of the House of Assembly  
Parliament House  
North Terrace  
ADELAIDE SA 5000

20 July 2020

Dear Mr Crump

After reviewing my Country Members Accommodation Allowance claims I would like an invoice raised to repay all claims made between December 2018 and June 2020. The amount is \$29,574.

On a without admission basis but given the ambiguity around the definitions provided in the Remuneration Tribunal report and to put the matter beyond doubt I wish to repay the total amount.

Also after review there are three days that were claimed due to administrative error.

- February 5, 2019
- May 8, 2019
- April 26, 2018

All payments are included in the repayment above except April 26, 2018. Could that day also be included on the invoice for repayment at the \$225 rate.

Yours sincerely

**Hon Stephan Knoll MP**  
Member for Schubert

*Note:  
Arrange for an  
invoice for payment  
as attached  
R Knoll  
20/7/2020*

## Travel Services

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**From:** Whetstone, Tim  
**Sent:** Monday, 20 July 2020 5:03 PM  
**To:** Crump, Rick  
**Cc:** Thomson, Pauline  
**Subject:** Whetstone. Country members accomodation allowance

Dear Mr Crump

Following the public airing of issues regarding the Country Members' Accommodation Allowance claims, I directed my Ministerial Office to undertake an audit of claims I have submitted for the duration of this Parliament and preceding years. This internal audit has identified some errors in the dates provided and I write to retract claims for the following dates and to request an invoice be issued for me to reimburse the Parliament for payments received for those dates:

Current Parliament:

2017-2018- 24 March, 27-28 March, 6 April, 9-10 April, 16-17 April, 26 April, 10 May, 31 May,

2018-2019- 8-19 July, 8 August, 13-14 August, 20 August, 23-24 August, 6 September, 10 September, 15 September, 17 September, 2 October, 18 October, 25 October, 27 October, 1 November, 8 November, 20 November, 13 December, 20 December: 5 February, 8 February, 18 February, 21 February,

2019-2020- 1 August, 19 August, 7 September, 15 September, 18 October, 26 October, 4 November, 29 November, 6 December, 20 December, 8 January, 7 March, 17 March

Previous Parliament.

2012- 2013- 11 November 2 March, 21 May, 14 June, 31 July,

2013- 2014- 2 August, 18 August, 5 September, 20-21 November, 8 December  
7 January, 9 January, 14-15 January, 23 January, 9 February, 10 March, 22-23 March, 13 April,

2014- 2015 - 21 October, 2-3 November, 23 November, 26 November, 29 November 13 April, 8 May  
16 April, 18 May,

2015- 2016- 19 November

Please call me if you wish to discuss.

Sincerely, Tim Whetstone.

*Pauline* *Noted.*  
*As discussed arrange*  
*for an invoice*  
*for repayment*  
*for the period*  
*2012/13 to*  
*2015/16*  
*as attached*  
*R. Crump*  
*21/7/2020*