Exemptions from the prohibition on the purchase of alcohol for Ministers and Ministerial officers

Background

Public Finance and Audit Act 1987

Section 41 of the Public Finance and Audit Act 1987 (the Act) provides the Treasurer with the power to make instructions regulating matters related to the receipt, expenditure or investment of public money, the acquisition or disposal of property, or the incurring of liabilities, by the Treasurer and Public Authorities.

Treasurer’s Instruction 13 – Expenditure incurred by Ministers and Ministerial Staff

Treasurer’s Instruction 13 (TI 13) regulates matters relating to the expenditure incurred by Ministers and Ministerial Staff.

Clause 13.15 prohibits the purchase of alcohol by a Minister or Ministerial Officer. However, there are some circumstances where this prohibition should not apply.

Clause 13.16 provides the Treasurer the power to make exemptions to this prohibition.

Consistent with the TI 13, in this guideline:

- **alcohol** has the same meaning as **liquor** under the *Liquor Licensing Act 1997*;

- **public money** means money in the custody or under the control of the public authority; or money in the custody or under the control of personnel on behalf of the public authority; including money that is held for ‘administered’ purposes.
**Exemptions**

In accordance with TI 13.16, Ministers and Ministerial staff are exempt from the prohibition on the purchase of alcohol with public money in the following circumstances:

1. State receptions and functions arranged by the Protocol Section of the Department of the Premier and Cabinet.
2. Functions associated with intergovernmental meetings where the Minister is representing the State.
3. Functions for stakeholders groups associated with the Minister’s portfolio and hosted by the Minister.
4. Departmental functions for special events hosted by a Minister.
5. Any other hospitality event approved by the Treasurer.

**Approval by the Treasurer**

A request from a Minister for an approval pursuant to Exemption 5 should be in writing and submitted to the Treasurer at treasurer.dtf@sa.gov.au.