

Finance, Services & Innovation FWHA exception to bargaining parameters

The PSA has received correspondence from the Department on the PSA's request for a flexible working hours agreement (FWHA) which provides for:

- 12-week settlement period
- six flex days
- uncapped flex per year
- a maximum accumulation of 42 hours carryover.

As you will have heard by now, Secretary Martin Hoffman has announced the Department has reviewed the PSA's latest submission and has subsequently submitted an application to the Wages Policy Taskforce (WPT) to seek an exception to some of the bargaining parameters.

The Department's submission is identical to what the PSA has been pushing for in all but a slight difference in the settlement period. The Department has applied for a 13-week settlement period.

This is a major backdown from management, which would not have been achieved without strong union involvement.

PSA General Secretary Anne Gardiner, recently sent a letter to the Department head, as well as to NSW Industrial Relations, in which she highlighted Premier Baird's inconsistent remarks on International Women's Day in relation to flexible work practices, and in which she sought a moratorium on FWHAs – a freeze on the 12-month notice period – and a gender, carers and Work Health Safety impact assessment, have all been key in influencing the position of the

Department and very positive influences on the current situation.

We now await the outcome of the Department's application to the WPT.

Thank you again to PSA delegates for their ongoing work in the representing the membership in these negotiations and their unwavering resolve in ensuring that members' current conditions in relation to flexible hours are maintained.

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