



# We need a fair pay rise

#### The public sector wages cap and how it affects you

Since 2011, the NSW Coalition Government has had a legislated public sector cap on our wages increases.

This cap significantly limits the power of our union to negotiate wage increases.

This cap means that our wages have risen no more than 2.5 per cent each year.

Comparatively, under the previous Labor Government (1995-2011), the union achieved an average annual wage increase of four per cent and under the Greiner Coalition Government before that (1988-1995), the union achieved (after lengthy arbitration) an average annual increase of three per cent. Our wage increases from 1998 to now are outlined in the following table:

#### Crown Employees (Public Sector Salaries) Award increases 1988 – 2018

Financial Year	Increase (%)	Government
1988 - 1989	3.0	Greiner
1989 - 1990	3.0	Greiner
1990 - 1991	3.0	Greiner
1991 - 1992	2.5	Greiner
1992 - 1993	3.0	Fahey
1993 - 1994	4.0	Fahey
1994 - 1995	3.0	Fahey
1995 - 1996	3.0	Carr
1996 - 1997	4.0	Carr
1997 - 1998	5.0	Carr
1998 - 1999	10.0	Carr
1999 - 2000	2.0	Carr
2000 -2001	2.0	Carr
2001 - 2002	3.0	Carr
2002 – 2003	4.0	Carr



AUTHORISED BY STEWART LITTLE, GENERAL SECRETARY, PUBLIC SERVICE ASSOCIATION OF NSW, 160 CLARENCE STREET SYDNEY





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2003 – 2004	5.0	Carr
2004 – 2005	4.0	Carr
2005 – 2006	4.0	Carr
2006 – 2007	4.0	lemma
2007 – 2008	4.0	lemma
2008 – 2009	4.0	lemma
2009 – 2010	4.0	Rees
2010 – 2011	4.0	Keneally
2011 – 2012	2.5	O'Farrell
2012 – 2013	2.5	O'Farrell
2013 – 2014	2.27	O'Farrell
2014 – 2015	2.27	Baird
2015 – 2016	2.5	Baird
2016 – 2017	2.5	Baird
2017 – 2018	2.5	Berejiklian

The O'Farrell Government justified introducing the cap by referencing it against the Reserve Bank of Australia's target band for inflation. If the RBA meets this inflation target, the cap essentially freezes your real wage. If inflation exceeds the RBA target, the cap means your real wage takes a cut.

NSW is Australia's most expensive state to live in, and the cost of living is going up. Yet, despite your hard work and the cuts made across the public sector, this Government's wages cap is holding you back from a fair pay rise.

As part of our NSW State Election Campaign, the PSA will be fighting to axe the wages cap and allow pay rises commensurate with the cost of living and your contributions to public services.

If you would like to get involved in the PSA's campaign, please click <u>HERE</u> and enter your details.

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