



*the*  
**PUBLIC  
SECTOR  
NEEDS A  
PAY RISE**



**STEWART LITTLE**  
**GENERAL SECRETARY**



“ By working to guide NSW through a series of disasters, you are true Champions of the State. You do not deserve to have your real wages cut.

We respect you, the public respects you. Now it is time for the Government to show you some respect by ending its unfair wages cap. ”

## **YOUR FUTURE PAY RISES**

### **PUBLIC SECTOR WORKERS KEEP NSW RUNNING**

It's been an exhausting couple of years. PSA/CPSU NSW members have been working hard to protect our state on many different fronts, working through a pandemic, bushfires and floods.

There are few who haven't acknowledged the critical and essential role played by the Champions of the NSW Public Sector during the past few years.

### **THE COST OF LIVING**

Inflation is ramping up. The official rate of inflation, the Consumer Price Index (CPI), is currently 3.5 per cent – and rising. Add in the fact certain items, such as bread, electricity, petrol and healthcare, have risen even faster and you realise our pay rises no longer keep up with inflation.

### **WHAT IS THE WAGES CAP?**

In 2011, the NSW Liberal-National Government introduced the NSW Public Sector Wages Policy. This means whenever the PSA/CPSU NSW lodges a pay claim, the NSW Industrial Relations Commission (IRC) is limited by law to awarding no more than 2.5 per cent, no matter how strong our case.

The cap is even enforced on Public Sector Workers outside the jurisdiction of the NSW IRC through Government control of the Boards of State Owned Corporations, such as TAFE, WaterNSW and Forestry Corporation. With the NSW Government

being the largest employer in the country, the policy of wage restraint flows on, pulling down pay rises in all states and all industries.

When you factor in inflation the NSW Government's cap on wage increases means the real wages of members are no longer keeping up with the cost of living.

Making things worse is that members received a paltry 0.3 per cent salary increase in 2020, after the Berejiklian/Perrottet Government attempted to freeze Public Sector wages. When inflation rose significantly that year, Public Sector workers experienced a real pay cut at the worst possible time.

Now it's going to happen again.

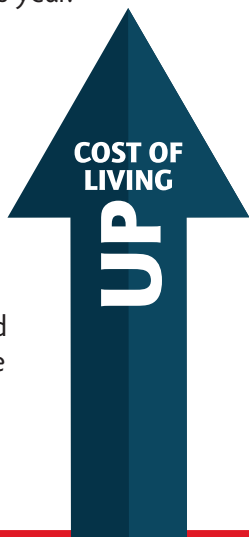
The NSW Government must remove the cap on Public Sector wages. If wages fail to keep pace with inflation, the NSW Government will oversee an enormous drop in living standards for the people of our state.

## OUR 2022 WAGES CLAIM

With inflation at its highest level for many years, the Association will be seeking a salary increase above CPI this year.

That's why we have written to the Premier, Mr Perrottet, outlining our claim. It is time Public Sector workers were properly acknowledged and treated with respect.

Sadly, Mr Perrottet has not had the decency to respond to our claim. This is not good enough, and it is a slap in the face to every hard-working Public Sector member.



## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Support our campaign
- Attend member meetings
- Check updates on our website
- Update your work noticeboard
- Contact your organiser to arrange a workplace meeting
- Sign the petition and ask your workmates to sign. You can find it at [www.psa.asn.au/petition](http://www.psa.asn.au/petition)
- Contact your state MP and ask them why the Premier, Mr Perrottet, is ignoring Public Sector workers
- Importantly, if you work with someone who is not a union member, ask them to join. The stronger we are; the more power we have.