



Public Service Association of NSW

General Secretary Stewart Little **President** Nicole Jess

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2 June 2022

Ms Samara Dobbins
Deputy Secretary – People and Operations
Premier and Cabinet
52 Martin Place
Sydney NSW 2000

PSIR@industrialrelations.nsw.gov.au

Dear Ms Dobbins

Re: Foreshadowed 24-hour industrial action on 8 June 2022
[Your Reference: A5423383]

We refer to your letter of 1 June 2022. The Executive of the Public Service Association of NSW (the PSA), met this morning and has carefully considered the contents of your letter. We note your advice that the Government is actively considering the terms of the NSW Public Sector Wages Policy as part of the upcoming budget. This has also been reported in the media. There are still no details forthcoming and no pay offer has been made to the PSA to date.

Since February 2022, the PSA has attempted to engage with the Premier regarding our Salaries Claim including an end to the unfair and arbitrary wage cap, and has received no response. Our claim also includes the payment of superannuation on the first year of unpaid maternity leave.

There has been no consultation with the PSA and no direct engagement with the PSA in relation to its Salaries Claim in breach of the Public Sector Wages Policy. Under the Wages Policy, bargaining parameters should be set and discussions should commence three months prior to the expiration of the Award, on 30 June 2022. There is no legitimate reason for any announcement regarding public sector salaries to be held over until the budget on 21 June 2022. The PSA membership has worked tirelessly during the pandemic and responding to natural disasters, has waited long enough and is tired of being ignored by the Government.

In relation to your offer to meet the Minister for Employee Relations, a delegation from the PSA, including the Assistant General Secretary, did meet with the NSW Minister for Employee Relations on 1 June 2022 to discuss the Crown Employees (School Administrative and Support Staff) Award 2019. In this meeting the PSA also discussed the Crown Employees (Public Sector – Salaries 2021) Award and the impending industrial action on 8 June 2022. In the meeting the Minister reiterated that there will

be consideration of the wages cap in the Budget on 21 June 2022, but no further details were provided and no pay offer was forthcoming.

We repeat that, if the PSA does not receive a wages offer from the Government that addresses inflation and the cost of living by **COB Monday 6 June 2022**, the PSA will proceed with a 24-hour state wide industrial action on **8 June 2022**.

In relation to any industrial dispute that may be filed by the Government, the Industrial Relations Secretary is the employer for the purposes of any proceedings relating to the public service in the Industrial Relations Commission, and therefore would be the notifier of the dispute.

Please do not hesitate to contact my office, Sandra Lockey, Executive Support Officer on 9220 0982 or via email on secretariat@psa.asn.au

Yours sincerely

STEWART LITTLE
GENERAL SECRETARY