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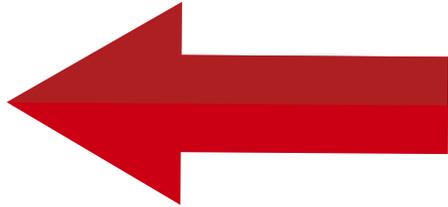


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WHY ARE WE GOING BACKWARDS?



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Despite the critical and essential role played by the Champions of the NSW Public Sector during the past few years, we are seeing our real wages go backwards. Inflation is out of control and getting worse, and our wages are not keeping up.

THE PUBLIC SECTOR NEEDS A PAY RISE

After a decade of low wage growth, Australian workers are struggling to keep up with the cost of living. Here in NSW, the state's Liberal-National government has deliberately kept pay rises down with their unfair public sector wages cap, even with inflation the highest it's been in many years. The State Government refuses to acknowledge that our pay is, in real terms, going backwards.

THE PUBLIC SECTOR NEEDS AN INDEPENDENT UMPIRE

Your wages and conditions should not be a political football. They need to be set by a totally independent umpire – the Industrial Relations Commission of NSW (IRC). But right now, the IRC's powers are unfairly restricted by the state government wages cap that has wiped out a decade of pay increases.

This needs to change.

We need to let the IRC return to its original role as an independent court of law that can exercise its powers to award you fair wages

and conditions. Historically, the IRC decided fair wage rises based on changes in government efficiency, such as work value and productivity increases implemented by the Public Sector. The IRC should be allowed to return to this tried and tested means of determining wages, free from the interference from a government determined to wage war on the Public Sector.

THE PUBLIC SECTOR NEEDS SECURE JOBS

Short-term contracts, casual roles and temporary agency hire have been eating away at job security for over a decade. The Public Sector has not been spared, with many roles now casual or on contract.

The lack of secure, ongoing roles must be addressed if Australians are to enjoy a full and rewarding life. The NSW Government should not be able to keep workers living in limbo, unable to settle down, buy a home, start a family, or simply live a secure life.

In the Public Sector, we expect the NSW Government to lead the way by creating secure jobs with fair pay and conditions. Instead, we often have insecure work holding us back.

THE PUBLIC SECTOR NEEDS FEWER JOB CUTS

The State Government's "Efficiency Dividend" is simply just a fancy term for cuts to Public Sector jobs and budgets.

Under the Efficiency Dividend, your employer is forced to find ways to do more with less. Every year, agencies are required to reduce costs by three per cent. Whether by job cuts or reduced services, it is the people of NSW relying on the Public Sector who eventually pay the price.