



General Media Enquires

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Public servants to go on rolling stoppages over pay

Public servants will walk off the job at various metropolitan locations today as part of rolling industrial action that seeks a better pay deal for the next three years.

Last week Community and Public Sector Union/Civil Service Association members overwhelmingly voted to reject the Barnett Government's pay offer of 2.5 per cent per year for the next three years.

CPSU/CSA branch secretary Toni Walkington said the offer was a paltry one and not enough to recruit and retain public servants who played a valuable role in the community.

"What we want to see is the government come to the table, bargain in good faith and not just stand behind a policy position in which they will not offer any compromise," Ms Walkington said.

"The pay offer has fallen short and shows the government has not moved its position in negotiations that started last year.

"They have always said it was a 2.5 per cent offer...take it or leave it...on the back of other public servants securing agreements of four per cent.

"When our members rejected the latest offer they did so believing they should be valued as much as others in the public sector for the work they do in the community."

Ms Walkington said the action would be ongoing and wasn't drawn on how long the industrial campaign would last.

"We hope the government would reconsider its position by putting an improved offer on the table and our members are committed to doing whatever it takes to get them there."

The offer relates to about 40,000 public servants.

Ms Walkington said there had been massive cutbacks to staff in the public service over the last couple of years, putting a major strain on those left behind who provide and maintain much-needed outcomes for the community.

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“Despite the drop in staff numbers our population is still growing and demand for these services is still high.

“It’s important that staff are well rewarded for their work and they have an appropriate pay offer that retains them and prevents them from being lost to the private sector.”

FOR COMMENT:

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