

# MEDIA ALERT

CPSU/CSA  
WE MAKE WORK  
LIFE BETTER.



Thursday, 9 May 2019

## BUDGET 2019; WAGES RESTRICTIONS A DISSERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

STATEMENT: *Quotes attributable to Melanie Bray ACTING BRANCH SECRETARY OF CPSU/CSA*

**Public sector workers will be disappointed to see this budget still contains the government's restrictive \$1000 Wages Policy.**

With fees and Charges increasing an average of two per cent, water increasing 2.5 per cent and motor vehicle registration increasing three per cent, **Wages Policy does not keep up with the cost-of-living for an average public sector worker.**

The thousands of workers that make up the Public Sector play a significant role in the WA Economy.

A pay rise that values the work they do means they are investing back into their local communities and small businesses. This is particularly true in regional areas, where in some towns the public sector is the biggest employer.

We welcome initiatives like the introduction of Domestic Violence hubs and expansion of community monitoring, a critical service provided by public sector workers.

All the initiatives and announcements in today's budget are nothing without a strong public sector to implement and maintain them.

We aren't going to let the government downplay the scale and scope of what the public sector achieves for WA.

<END>

### FAST FACTS

- The average WA public sector worker is a Level 3.4 or 4.1 with a salary of approximately \$77,000
- Wages Policy is a \$1000 increase or 1.28% for the average worker.
- CPSU/CSA general agreement covers approximately 32,000 Western Australians
- The union has been in bargaining with the State Government since December, seeking pay rises of 2% + 2.5% and some changes to conditions and entitlements
- An initial offer received just before Easter adheres to the government's wages policy of a flat \$1000 raise for public sector workers. None of the proposed changes to entitlements have been included in the government offer so far.
- The union will give a formal response to government on the 17<sup>th</sup> May
- The current agreement is due to expire on 13<sup>th</sup> June

For further information please contact Media Liaison Laura Cassie, 0421 934 794