

**Commonwealth Members of Parliament Staff Enterprise Agreement 2020-23
Bargaining Group**

MEETING RECORD

Friday, 19 February 2021

11:30am – 12:30pm

1S4, Parliament House and by GovTEAMS

Present:

Name	Office / Organisation
Lynnis Bonanno	Mr George Christensen MP
Simon Kelly*	Mr Llew O'Brien MP
Helen Lewis	The Hon Stuart Robert MP
Rosemary Little	The Hon Peter Dutton MP
Leonie Lloyd-Smith	Mr Rowan Ramsey MP
Tory Menschelyi	The Hon Damian Drum MP
Tom Pretty	The Hon Dan Tehan MP
Nathan Winn	Mr Bert Van Manen MP
Kim York*	Senator Rex Patrick
Mick Jones*	Australian Services Union (ASU)
Poni Ravula*	ASU
Bryce Wilson	ASU (Mr David Smith MP)
Alison Byrnes	ASU (The Hon Sharon Bird MP)
Brydan Toner	ASU (Dr Mike Freeland MP)
Ron Johnson	Community and Public Sector Union (CPSU)
Eleanor Kennedy*	CPSU
Trish Cowcher*	CPSU (Senator Jordon Steele-John)
Kim Hall*	CPSU (Ms Sharon Claydon MP)
Kate Sutherland*	CPSU (Ms Lisa Chesters MP)
Steven Mammarella	Minister for Finance
Dana Sutton	Department of Finance
Luke Kostava	Department of Finance
Jo Fernandez	Department of Finance

*Via GovTEAMS

Apologies: Luke Barnes (Mr Dave Sharma MP), Mark Briers (Senator the Hon Anne Ruston), Daniel Frost-Foster (The Hon Trevor Evans MP), Michael Heydon (Senator Slade Brockman), Jordan Gunton (Senator Wendy Askew)

Meeting Chair: Dana Sutton

Meeting opened: 11:10pm

Meeting closed: 12:15pm

Item 1 – Introduction and apologies

- Ms Sutton opened the meeting and welcomed all attendees. Attendees introduced themselves and apologies were noted.

Item 2 – Business arising

- Open action items
 - 20/20 – Open – Finance has asked ECG members to postpone the meeting to focus on bargaining at the moment, but confirm that it will be included once meetings resume.
 - 19/20 – Complete – The savings from discounts on pay adjustment will not be provided as they go to deliberations of Government.
 - 22/20 – Complete – The Wage Price Index (WPI) values to estimate costs are assumptions relating to the deliberations of Government and will not be provided.
 - 23/20 – Complete – Clause 19.1 was amended in the proposed enterprise agreement.
 - 24/20 – Complete – As noted at the time of the ballot, as an electronic ballot, there is no scrutiny as votes are tallied by computer.
- Ms Byrnes asked for the total number of votes cast in the December ballot. Ms Sutton agreed to take this on notice.
- Mr Johnson asked for clarification on the costing process and whether the APSC considers costings. Ms Sutton agreed to take this on notice.

ACTION ITEMS
1/21: Finance to consider communicating the total number of votes cast in the December ballot.
2/21: Finance to provide more information on the costing process.

Item 3 – Discussion of bargaining issues

- Ms Sutton invited representatives to share their feedback on the draft EA taken to ballot.
- Union representatives and bargaining representatives for employees of independent parliamentarians identified principal concerns with the draft EA. In summary, common issues included:
 - the inclusion of an additional six months' pay pause
 - the quantum of the pay offer
 - the uncertainty in pay adjustments in being tied to the private sector WPI and no floor
 - the omission of standalone family and domestic violence leave
- The CPSU offered to provide a best practice example of how a standalone family and domestic violence leave provision operates in the public service.
- The CPSU asked for gendered violence to be included as a stand-alone agenda item at the next EA meeting (Friday 26, February), noting that the CPSU had surveyed its members on this issue. The CPSU also noted that this issue and the survey would be discussed at the WHS Committee meeting also scheduled Friday 26 February.
- The Coalition representatives indicated they would discuss their feedback on the draft EA at the next meeting.

- Mr Mammarella noted that the Minister genuinely wishes to receive feedback and does not intend for bargaining to take any longer than necessary.
- Ms Byrnes formally requested for the Minister for Finance and Shadow Minister for Finance to attend a bargaining meeting to receive feedback from representatives.

ACTION ITEMS
3/21: CPSU to provide a best practice example of how a standalone family and domestic violence leave provision operates in the public service.
4/21: Finance to include gendered violence as an agenda item for the next bargaining meeting.
5:21: Finance to advise the Minister for Finance and Shadow Minister for Finance of Ms Byrne's invitation to attend a bargaining meeting to receive feedback from representatives.

Item 4 – Other business

- Ms Sutton noted that the Finance Minister has agreed to approve an additional 10 days' replacement employment (total of 30 days).
- Ms Sutton invited representatives to discuss the circulated draft bargaining timetable.
- Mr Johnson (CPSU) made clear that the CPSU expects the Government to present proposals and not solely rely on bargaining representatives to address the issues with the EA, which may require further meetings.
- The next meeting scheduled on 26 February, following the WHS Committee meeting. Representatives asked for the bargaining meeting to be held earlier in the day. This was not possible as the WHS Committee meeting would likely to require more time.