Australian Government Department of Finance

Ministerial and Parliamentary Services

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MoPS EA Bargaining Meeting 16 – Record of Meeting

Friday, 5 July 2024 Committee Room 1S4/Microsoft Teams Meeting Opened: 9:30 Meeting Closed: 12:40

Chair – Amanda Bruce, Assistant Secretary, HR Frameworks

Office
United Services Union (USU)
USU (David Smith MP)
Community and Public Sector Union (CPSU)
CPSU (Sharon Claydon MP)
CPSU (Hon Mark Dreyfus MP)
CPSU (Senator David Shoebridge)
Senator the Hon Michaelia Cash
Hon Kevin Hogan MP
The Hon Peter Dutton MP
Llew O'Brien MP
Special Minister of State, Senator the Hon Don Farrell
Department of Finance

Due to privacy arrangements some attendee details have been removed from this list

Agenda Item 1 – Welcome and apologies

- The chair opened the meeting with an acknowledgement of country and sought views from bargaining representatives on the proposed agenda.
- Under 'other business' representatives requested an update on the classification review and one-off payment.
- The chair confirmed an Employee Consultative Group (ECG) meeting would be scheduled for Friday, 30 August 2024 to discuss a draft terms of reference for the classification review.
- The chair advised that the flat rate for the one-off payment was not able to be calculated until the voting period concluded as the number of eligible employees, which is the denominator, is not able to be determined in advance.

Agenda Item 2 – Update on changes to final draft MOPS EA

- The chair advised that a final draft MOPS EA had been approved by the Minister and provided to the APSC for policy review and approval, noting there may be minor typographical or formatting changes required.
- The chair discussed timeframes for approval processes and key dates.

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- There were a number of queries about minor aspects of the draft EA, including discussion on typographical errors and requests for clarity on some wording. The Chair noted concerns. Representatives agreed a number of matters could be addressed through communication to MOPS Act employees.
- It was agreed that bargaining representatives would be provided with a version of the approved MOPS EA prior to distribution to employees ahead of the access period.
- The chair requested that bargaining representatives advise the department of any typographical errors, or incorrect clause references as soon as possible.

Agenda Item 3 – Processes for next steps

- The chair provided an overview of the communications the department proposes to provide to
 employees and parliamentarians ahead of the voting period. Information sessions for staff and
 parliamentarians will be scheduled, and further communication will be provided which will include
 details on the mechanics of voting and provide guidance to employees on updating their personal
 contact details ahead of the ballot process commencing.
- Bargaining representatives requested clarification on arrangements for casual employees and advised this would assist with communicating to their members.
- The chair advised that an external service provider had been contracted to undertake the ballot process for the MOPS EA. MOP(S) Act employees would receive communication directly from the service provider with instructions on how to vote. The chair noted feedback from representatives on technical aspects of the voting process and thanked representatives for agreeing to assist with communications to ensure employee contact details are up to date ahead of the access period.
- The chair committed to providing a draft list of outstanding actions arising from the meeting.
- The group agreed that further meetings would be called on an ad-hoc basis as required and these would be via Teams.

Meeting Closed

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