



NTPS GENERAL BULLETIN 11/2013

UPDATE ON PROGRESS OF BARGAINING

Today is the first day that a pay rise would have become effective had the unions provided in-principle agreement to my revised offer. However, the unions do not agree to accept my revised offer and three unions continue to progress plans for industrial action.

No Back Pay

With no in-principle agreement reached and with industrial action proposed there will be a further delay to the effective date from which employees could receive a pay rise. This is a concern to me as I have made it clear to the unions that the [Northern Territory Public Sector Wages Policy 2013-2016](#) does not provide for any back pay such as offered with previous negotiations.

Whilst I acknowledge that the *Fair Work Act 2009* (FWA) provides for employees to take protected industrial action and recognise the rights of union members to take action, I would also like to remind union members that participating in some forms of industrial action such as strikes or workplace bans, may result in deductions of salary which is a requirement of the employer under FWA.

Survey Results

I also want to thank those of you who took the time to register their view and provide feedback on my revised offer. The results of this survey indicated no clear preference for or against the offer. This outcome was provided to unions today and they were informed that my revised offer ([Information Sheet 5 / 2013](#)) remains open and I have invited the unions to continue to meet to progress bargaining in the hope of reaching agreement as soon as possible.

I also extend the invitation for all employees covered by the agreement to continue to provide me feedback using the link below.

Feedback

Should you wish to express a view on the offer or make a suggestion you can provide your feedback to me directly at www.enterpriseagreements.nt.gov.au/general_feedback. All feedback will be treated confidentially.

More Information

To keep you informed the OCPE has a webpage dedicated to enterprise agreement negotiations under the [Enterprise Agreement Negotiation Updates page](#).

The website will be updated regularly with the latest information on negotiations, including bulletins, information sheets and other material.

KEN SIMPSON
Commissioner for Public Employment

15 August 2013

