

Message to the Tasmanian Parliament on behalf of Public Sector union members

We are tired of the lies.

We are tired of the broken promises.

We are tired of being treated with contempt by a government that said one thing before the election and did the opposite after it.

We are tired of being blamed for the decisions of a government that hasn't consulted with us or listened to our opinions.

We are tired of a government that has deliberately misrepresented our position on a wage freeze.

Public sector workers have always been willing to accept a fair wage freeze but we expect a government that wants us to forgo legally binding wage increases to ask, not demand, and to negotiate the arrangements not dictate them.

Today public sector union members meeting throughout the state have endorsed a 12 month wage freeze on two conditions.

Firstly the government must guarantee that all savings delivered through the wage freeze are used to reduce the number of public sector jobs that are cut. This will require the wage freeze to be transparently costed.

Secondly the government must agree that the wage freeze is implemented through consent applications to the Tasmanian Industrial Commission.

There is still time for this sensible wage freeze to be implemented before increases due in early December apply, but the government needs to stop playing politics and act.

The ball is entirely in the government's court.

27 November 2014

