



**Dominic Perrottet**  
Treasurer  
Minister for Industrial Relations

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Friday, 16 March 2018

### **FOLEY'S PLAN: \$5.8 BILLION WAGES BILL FOR NSW TAXPAYERS**

NSW Treasurer Dominic Perrottet has slammed Labor's plan to make NSW taxpayers fund an estimated \$5.8 billion increase to the public wages bill without improving or increasing services.

NSW Labor leader Luke Foley recently committed to abandoning the Government's wages policy, which caps annual public sector wage increases at 2.5 percent, with higher increases permitted if they are offset by productivity savings.

New Treasury analysis estimates that, even if Labor's uncapped wage policy was limited to increases of 4 per cent per year, NSW taxpayers would have been slugged an additional \$10.9 billion since July 2011, and would face an additional \$5.8 billion bill over the next four years - an average of \$2,227.06 for every household in NSW.

"The Labor party needs to come clean with the people of New South Wales about how much their policy will cost hard working taxpayers across New South Wales," Mr Perrottet said.

"The only way Luke Foley can force the people of NSW to pay for this reckless, union-backed blowout is by slugging families with higher taxes, or slashing services like schools and hospitals.

"While our Government is investing \$4.2 billion in more than 120 new and upgraded schools, Labor's public wage bill binge would wipe every one of those schools out in one fell swoop."

Mr Perrottet said the NSW Government was working to deliver greater prosperity for every working family across NSW.

"I'm proud to say we have the best public servants in the country and our wages policy strikes the right balance between fairness and fiscal responsibility," he said.

"Everyone wants to see wages higher and taxes lower - except the Labor party who spend all day thinking up new ways of taking even more of your money.

“Our wages policy is integral to ensuring we can sustainably deliver wage increases to our hard working public sector workers while keeping the budget under control.

“Under the Liberals & Nationals’ disciplined approach, public sector wages have still grown almost 18 per cent faster than private sector wages over the last 12 months - now Labor want to increase that gap by even more, while asking working families to foot the bill.

“While Labor once again opt for lazy, magic-pudding economics and a taxpayer funded spending spree, we are getting on with the real work of strengthening the NSW economy, increasing job opportunities, and delivering the critical services and infrastructure NSW needs.”

In February 2018 Mr Perrottet launched the first ever NSW Productivity Commission with a mandate to drive productivity growth, lower the cost of living and make housing more affordable in NSW.

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