



Dominic Perrottet
Treasurer

MEDIA STATEMENT

Tuesday, 2 June, 2020

GOVERNMENT TO TAKE WAGE POLICY TO IRC

The NSW Government will pursue its pause on public sector pay rises through the Industrial Relations Commission, after the policy was disallowed in parliament.

This follows the Government's offer of a \$1000 bonus to frontline workers and a job guarantee for 12 months.

Treasurer Dominic Perrottet said the NSW Government has to consider what is in the best interests of the eight million people living across the state.

"At a time when there are hundreds of thousands of people out of work, the creation of new jobs must be our top priority, not giving those with job security a pay-rise," Mr Perrottet said.

"We're in the grip of a once-in-100-year crisis and it is simply not appropriate to pretend this is a year like any other."

The Treasurer has met with unions and workers impacted by this decision to hear their views and to explain why he believes a public sector pay-pause is needed for 12-months.

He has also consulted those who have lost their jobs and are worried about their futures.

"It's a sad day when Labor and the cross-bench show as little regard as they have today for the thousands lining up outside Centrelink and approaching charities for food hampers, because they can no longer afford to put food on the table.

"This has been the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression and our focus has to be on kick-starting our recovery with more jobs, jobs, jobs. "This hasn't been an easy decision but it is fair and it's the right decision right now."

Conciliation will begin in the IRC from Thursday.

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