

Guide Dogs: Is 1.75% going to cut it?

Dear Member,

Yesterday the HSU Bargaining Team met again with Guide Dogs NSW/ACT (GDN) management to continue negotiations of your new agreement.

Classifications

The Bargaining Team put forward some suggested changes to the classification structures for the Fundraising, Support Services and Guide Dog Production streams and made comment on the Client Services stream.

Some of these have been adopted by GDN, which is positive. The recent management update accurately outlines these changes.

We are still to put a formal position on the Client Services stream and will do at the next meeting.

The Money

The Bargaining Team put forward a higher wage increase:

- 1 July 2019 - 2.5%
- 1 July 2020 - 2.5%
- 1 July 2021 - 3%

This was based in feedback from members and employees. It is also consistent with the annual wage increases in the public sector (2.5% for health and education) and is lower than the National Wage Case decision which sees Award rates go up by 3% from 1 July.

GDN has responded with an alternative offer:

- 1 July 2019 - 1.75% (up from 1.5%)
- 1 July 2020 - 2%
- 1 July 2021 - 2%

Is this good enough? A meeting has been scheduled for 17 June, which is likely to be the last opportunity to change the offer before it goes out to a vote.

What do you think? Contact your local HSU Delegate (Matt Woods, Metaxia Tsoukatos or Peter McKenzie) or email HSU Bargaining Officer Lauren Hutchins via email lauren.hutchins@hsu.asn.au.

The Car Policy

GDN has called a meeting with affected employees for 11 June. HSU representatives have conveyed the views of members coming out of the recent survey. As we understand it, there will be a redrafted car policy coming out shortly, though not before 11 June. If you can make this meeting, HSU members are encouraged to participate and to raise any concerns.

Know someone who isn't a member?

Anytime is a good time to join your union but if you know someone who wants to fight for more – now is the time. Forward them this newsletter and encourage them to join at www.hsu.asn.au or by calling the Union on 1300 HSU NSW.

In unity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gerard Hayes', written in a cursive style.

Gerard Hayes
Secretary, HSU NSW/ACT/QLD