

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016

Outcome 2 - Workplace Relations and Economic Strategy

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ15-000113

Senator Lines asked on 01 June 2015 on proof Hansard page 115

Question

Wage growth

Dr Morehead: I can go through the wage increases by industry, if you like.

Senator LINES: No, you said 'the unions' and I asked you which unions.

Dr Morehead: Well, we can take that on notice and give you a list, if you like, of what has been happening in enterprise bargaining and what some of the claims are. We may have one or two examples here of claims. But if we would like to move into what unions are hoping for in wages we can provide that on notice very easily. I do not quite have that here.

Answer

The following are recent union wage claims which the Department of Employment is aware of through its monitoring of enterprise agreement negotiations. This information has been sourced from material filed by unions with the Fair Work Commission in support of a Protected Action Ballot Order application.

- In negotiations for employees of Bethany Community Centre (Victoria), the Australian Services Union initially sought wage increases of six per cent per annum. (Date filed: 26 February 2014)
- In negotiations for a replacement agreement at Ausreo NSW, the Australian Manufacturing Workers' Union initially sought wage increases of 24 per cent over three years (12/6/6). (Date filed: 2 April 2014)
- In negotiations for St Johns Ambulance employees in the Northern Territory, United Voice initially sought wage increases of 32 per cent over three years (10/10/12). (Date filed: 9 July 2014)
- In negotiations for AGC Industries maintenance employees at Alcoa sites in Western Australia, the Australian Manufacturing Workers' Union initially sought wage increases of 24 per cent over three years. (Date filed: 21 July 2014)
- In negotiations for a replacement agreement for employees at Hymix in Queensland, the Transport Workers Union initially sought wage increases of five per cent per annum. (Date filed: 8 December 2014)
- In the latest round of bargaining for the higher education sector, the National Tertiary Education Union initially sought wage increases of seven per cent per annum. (Source: NTEU Key Claims http://www.universitybargaining.org.au/key_claims)