
MEMORANDUM

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To: AEU Reps *for the attention of all AEU NT members at your workplace*

From: Full-Time Officers AEU-NT

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COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT UPDATE 2

Most members will by now have had the opportunity to read the OCPE's Offer dated 11 May 2010. The union's view of this offer is that it is a deeply disappointing one.

The **salary quantum** will always be the headline in such an offer and we feel that the offer of a 3% increase is far too low given that CPI is already above 3.5% and projected to rise, not fall, over the coming months. In effect, accepting 3.5% would be the equivalent of a pay cut.

The remainder of the package is just as disappointing. Some of it is punitive, such as the proposal to seek compensation from teachers who don't complete their contracts. Some of it either already exists as DET policy or has long been foreshadowed – for example the new Highly Accomplished and Leading Teacher Scheme. Other parts of the offer rely on the Fair Work Act as their basis – though even this is misquoted and misused.

There are some astonishing ideas such as the almost unworkable notion that the school year could be extended by 10 weeks in some remote localities. And, of course, there is once again the suggestion of removing two days from stand down.

There is, however, **nothing contained in the offer aimed at improving teacher support** – no mention of increased administrative support or information technology support, let alone increased teacher assistance in the classroom.

There is no mention of staffing remote schools according to the ESL formula.

The offer does not look at addressing the inequities of the remote housing system whereby local recruits fail to be given the benefits given to teachers coming in from outside the community.

The offer does not even contain one single line regarding teacher workloads or class sizes.

The Executive of the union will be meeting shortly to finalise the AEU-NT's bargaining position, a position which will be based on the Consultation Document Executive put out in April, together with UCA motions carried at AEU-NT 2010 Conference.

It's expected that the Union will be able to provide a comprehensive response to the OCPE by the beginning of June. Nothing will be given to the OCPE before it is distributed to members.

Top end queries should be directed towards Adam Lampe at secretary@aeunt.org.au Central Australian queries should go to Stephen Nimmo at stephen.nimmo@fastmail.fm