

### NTFRS WORKPLACE AGREEMENT BULLETIN 2/2008

#### Offer made for a new workplace agreement

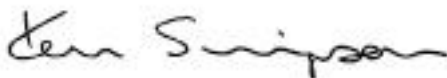
Today I have made an offer to the Liquor, Hospitality and Miscellaneous Union (LHMU) for a new Firefighters' workplace agreement. The offer provides a competitive package of enhanced employment conditions and recognises the union's log of claims. The principle elements of the offer are as follows:

- Salary increases of 4% backdated to November 2007, 4% from November 2008 and 3% in November 2009 which will keep firefighters amongst the best paid in Australia during the life of the agreement,
- Agreement to expire in November 2010,
- The introduction of paid paternity / partner's leave of five days on the birth or adoption of a child by the employee's spouse or partner,
- The inclusion within the agreement of new clauses specifying conditions for parental leave, personal / carer's leave and recreation leave – including cash-up provisions,
- Introduction of a Training and Development Instructors allowance for non-certificate IV trainers of \$1.00 per hour,
- The freeing up of 'lateral entry' provisions with the filling of all vacancies to be based on merit,
- Variation to the notice period for directed transfers between shift work and day work within centres only from 90 to 7 days,
- Enhanced flexibility in taking long service leave – minimum of 7 days,
- The preservation, where legally possible, in a deed of agreement, award and agreement conditions which are currently considered prohibited content under WorkChoices,
- No reductions to existing staffing levels in the agreement, and
- Other than proposed in the new agreement, retention of all other existing conditions.

Further information on the offer is available in our Fact Sheets which can be found on our website at <http://www.workplaceagreements.nt.gov.au/>.

#### Your feedback welcome

Your feedback on the offer is welcome through the email link on our website. Otherwise speak to your union representative. Discussions will continue with the LHMU in the coming weeks where they will provide a response to my offer.



KEN SIMPSON  
Commissioner for Public Employment  
14 March 2008