

Dear Chair.

I'm an Old Age Pensioner, living in Belconnen. Thank you for this opportunity in expressing my opinions, re; Politicians Pay.

Just a comment to say Canberra is a shadow of the City I loved over 42 Years ago. In my opinion, Self Government was the worst system that could have ever been inflicted on the Canberra Community.

I formed my opinion on listening to you, on Commercial Radio, last Sunday Morning, that your eventual goal is to have ACT Politicians Salaries, on a par with their State Counterparts. In this present Pay Climate, a 6% increase on top of a 6% last year, would be devastating to the ACT Community. The Government are in negotiations at present with their Workforce for pay increases of less than 2% in some cases, these proposed increases come, in many cases with a trade off, in conditions of Service. This is a time for ACT Politicians to at least keep parity with their Workforce.

This method of Pay Increases is most unfair, I have a Copy of The Conditions of Service at the ANU, 1973. practically every Condition has been traded away in pursuit of a decent pay rise. I bring this fact up because I have never know a Federal, State or Territory Politician have ever needed to be in the business of having to trade conditions, who ever would? with pay rises at 6%.

Conditions of Service should be handed down from Generation to Generation, not for one Generation having to use them as barter.

As I am a Product of Greater Manchester, I just updated myself on the way they run the City, a Population of approx; 2.7 Million, not a Politician in sight, or a Legislative Assembly, the first Lord Mayor of Manchester is to be appointed next year, the place is run through Councils and Boroughs, I do believe they could squeeze an extra Population of some 385,600, in without much problem. As an added Bonus, their Police Officers are not armed.

In closing, sometime ago I puzzled over Remuneration, mainly Federal Politicians were explaining that Pay Rises were out of their hands, " It's the Remuneration Board's decision " was their replies, so I followed the paper trail. It first came before the Three Person Tribunal, a verdict was reached, next to the Governor General, he/she carefully scrutinized it, now here's the crunch, the GG passes the document to the relevant Cabinet Minister, who finally adjudicates. Game, Set and Match!!!

Thank you for your Patience, and the opportunity to express my opinions.

Good Luck in your Endeavour.

Yours Sincerely, Neville Whitworth.