

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Australian Public Service Commission

Additional Estimates Hearings 2002-2003, 10-11 February 2003

Question: PM 66

Topic: Australian Public Service Commission's Certified Agreement 2000 - 2003

Hansard Page: 234

Senator Forshaw asked: What are the approximate per year costs of improvements in pay and conditions for the Commission's current certified agreement?

Answer: For the life of the agreement, costs by item were calculated prior to commencement of the agreement to be:

Increases in overtime payments (in lieu of meals and taxi fares)	\$750
Travel costs (travel allowance)	\$4,500
Personal/Carers Leave additional 5 days	\$31,395
Productivity bonus	\$110,190
Salary Increases	\$1,235,606
Performance Payments	\$135,548
Christmas Close Down	\$529,545
Total	\$2,047,534 (over three years)

**Contextual comments for Senate Estimates Committee Questions on Notice
PM65-PM68**

The PSMPC Certified Agreement 2000-2003 was certified by the Australian Industrial Relations Commission (AIRC) in May 2000.

Implementation was reported on in the Commission's 2000/01 Annual Report. This indicated that implementation was progressing smoothly and listed factors contributing to the funding of the Agreement.

The Agreement included the possibility of an additional salary increase from July 2002 if further productivity gains could be identified during the life of the Agreement subject to certain conditions. An annual evaluation of the performance of the Agreement conducted in July 2001 indicated that these gains had been achieved and that further gains were being realised. On that basis the Commission sought to vary the Agreement to provide an additional 1% salary increase. This variation was certified by the AIRC on 8 November 2002.

The evaluation and variation were reported in the Commission's 2001/02 Annual Report.

The Agreement expires in May 2003 and discussions commenced through the Commission's Workplace Relations Committee during 2002 on a successor agreement.