

**ADAM SEARLE MLC
NSW LABOR LEADER IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
SHADOW MINISTER FOR INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS**

**DAVID HARRIS MP
LABOR MEMBER FOR WYONG**

**1,682 WORKERS IN WYONG FACING
PAY CUT UNDER BEREJKLIAN GOVERNMENT**

The NSW Labor Opposition has condemned plans by the Berejiklian Government to cut the wages of 400,000 public sector workers – including at least 1,682 in the Wyong electorate – saying the heroes of the COVID-19 pandemic shouldn't be thanked with a pay cut.

Liberal Treasurer Dominic Perrottet recently confirmed he would deny a 2.5 per cent pay increase to every public service employee in the state. There are 502 teachers, 586 health workers, 246 police officers and 64 public transport drivers in the Wyong electorate.

Labor Leader in the Legislative Council and Shadow Minister for Industrial Relations Adam Searle said that rather than cutting the wages of vital public sector employees, the Liberals and Nationals could save more by abandoning their wasteful, extravagant \$1.5 billion plan to relocate the Powerhouse Museum.

“Hard working cleaners, drivers, paramedics, nurses, teachers, police and many others risked their lives to look after our state during the pandemic – and now this Government wants to thank them with a pay cut”, Mr Searle said.

“Reasonable wage increases are a vital stimulus measure. It is time to put dollars in pockets, not take them away. A pay cut to 400,000 people will be a body blow to our economic recovery.

“If the Berejiklian Government has a budget black hole they need to fill because of the COVID-19 pandemic they should start by scrapping their \$1.5 billion Powerhouse museum move.”

Labor Member for Wyong said the Government's pay cut would devastate hundreds of local families.

“Vital public sector workers have gone above and beyond for our community during this pandemic and now the Government wants to turn around and cut their pay.

“Thanks to Gladys Berejiklian there are more than 1,408 families in the Wyong electorate facing a pay cut at an already difficult time.

“Our struggling local small businesses will also suffer if people have less money in their pockets to spend. Whichever way you look at it, this just doesn’t make sense”

ENDS

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MEDIA CONTACT: WYONG EO 4352 2711