
ACTU EXECUTIVE

July 2023

RESOLUTION

Support for NSW Police Officers Fair Insurance

The Australian Council of Trade Unions Executive notes that policing is one of the most dangerous jobs for working people in Australia. Every day, police officers carry the risk of death and disability with them as they perform their necessary duties in service to our community.

The union movement has long advocated for default life and total and permanent disability insurance as core part of the promise of universal superannuation. Insurance formed part of the first claim for superannuation and is an essential part of our superannuation system today. Every worker should come home safely, but insurance is there so workers and their families are not left destitute should they not.

Essential insurance is expensive, and over the past decade, NSW Police Officers have been forced to pay out of their own pocket because contributions to meet this essential cost have been washed through their personal superannuation accounts.

Nearly every one of the 17,500 NSW Police Officers is adversely affected by the way their insurance costs are met. This has led to workers having tax debts automatically incurred, police officers being found ineligible for Government support for child care subsidies or paid parental leave as the contributions to meet insurance count as personal income.

Over the past ten years support has been received from every political party for action on this but so far nothing has been done. The union has sought and received promises from State and Federal Governments that this would be rectified. Every Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer from David Bradbury, to Scott Morrison and Josh Frydenberg have committed to, but failed to rectify the issue.

ACTU Executive calls on the Federal Government to provide immediate relief to NSW Police Officers from these concessional contributions while the New South Wales Government gives effect to its commitment to the Police Association to finding a long-term sustainable solution.

ACTU Executive commends the NSW Police Association members on taking industrial action in support of their workplace rights until this issue is resolved.

Moved: Paul Farrow, National Secretary, Australian Workers Union

Seconded: Melissa Donnelly, General Secretary, Commonwealth Public Sector Union

Carried Unanimously.