

Operational Ambulance Managers (State) Award - New Award, Increases in Salaries

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Summary The new Operational Ambulance Managers (State) Award replaces the Ambulance Service of NSW Superintendents and Operational Managers (State) Award. The new award provides for increases in salaries and a new laundry allowance. This Information Bulletin rescinds IB2007_047.

Replaces Doc. No. Ambulance Service of NSW Superintendents/Operational Managers (State) Award - Interim Award [IB2007_047]

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OPERATIONAL AMBULANCE MANAGERS (STATE) AWARD NEW AWARD, INCREASES IN SALARIES

On 12 September 2008 the Full Bench of the Industrial Relations Commission made the new Operational Ambulance Managers (State) Award arising out of work value/special case proceedings. The Award is effective from the first pay period commencing on or after 12 September 2008. A copy of the Award is at Attachment 2.

This new award rescinds and replaces the Ambulance Service of NSW Superintendent/Operational Managers (State) Award. A summary of the key award changes are set out below.

Classification Descriptors – Clause 5

Descriptors of each of the 5 classification levels have been introduced into the award.

Laundry Allowance – Clause 29

A laundry allowance has been introduced into the award.

Rates of Pay – Section 7

Rates of pay have been increased by 15% for all managers except those in Operations Centres, who received an interim 4% increase pending application by the parties.

In addition, increases of 2.5% effective from 1 July 2008 have been included in the Award, arising from the 2008 Memorandum of Understanding between the parties.

The rates of pay, together with the new Micropay and Supero codes are contained at Attachment 1 to this Information Bulletin.

Supplementation

Funding supplementation will be provided following detailed works from the Ambulance Service.

Professor Debora Picone AM
Director-General

Attachment 1

Micropay Code	Supero Code	Position Description	1.7.2008 pw	1.7.2008 pa
AMBULANCE SERVICE OF NEW SOUTH WALES SUPERINTENDENTS/OPERATIONAL MANAGERS (STATE) AWARD				
Operational Manager				
72.902.11	72SOM01	Level 1 - Salary Band	1399.70 to 1466.30	73,035 to 76,512
72.902.12	72SOM02	Level 2 - Salary Band	1433.00 to 1699.60	74,771 to 88,685
72.902.13	72SOM03	Level 3 - Salary Band	1666.30 to 1899.60	86,945 to 99,118
72.902.14	72SOM04	Level 4 - Salary Band	1866.20 to 2232.90	97,377 to 116,507
72.902.15	72SOM05	Level 5 - Salary Band	2199.50 to 2466.20	114,768 to 128,681

Operations Centre Manager				
n/a	71AOCM101	Level 1 - Salary Band	1453.50 to 1522.60	75,844 to 79,445
n/a	71AOCM201	Level 2 - Salary Band	1488.10 to 1765.00	77,647 to 92,096
n/a	71AOCM301	Level 3 - Salary Band	1794.00 to 1972.60	93,610 to 102,930
n/a	71AOCM401	Level 4 - Salary Band	1938.00 to 2318.70	101,122 to 120,988
n/a	71AOCM501	Level 5 - Salary Band	2284.10 to 2561.00	119,182 to 133,630

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Micropay Code	Supero Code	Position Description	13.9.2008pw	13.9.2008pa
OPERATIONAL AMBULANCE MANAGERS (STATE) AWARD				
Operational Manager				
72.902.11	72SOM01	Level 1 - Salary Band	1551.50 to 1625.40	80,956 to 84,811
72.902.12	72SOM02	Level 2 - Salary Band	1588.40 to 1884.00	82,881 to 98,304
72.902.13	72SOM03	Level 3 - Salary Band	1847.00 to 2105.60	96,375 to 109,868
72.902.14	72SOM04	Level 4 - Salary Band	2068.60 to 2475.00	107,939 to 129,144
72.902.15	72SOM05	Level 5 - Salary Band	2438.10 to 2733.70	127,216 to 142,638

Operations Centre Manager				
n/a	71AOCM101	Level 1 - Salary Band	1511.70 to 1583.70	78,878 to 82,633
n/a	71AOCM201	Level 2 - Salary Band	1547.60 to 1835.60	80,753 to 95,780
n/a	71AOCM301	Level 3 - Salary Band	1799.60 to 2051.60	93,901 to 107,047
n/a	71AOCM401	Level 4 - Salary Band	2015.50 to 2411.50	105,167 to 125,828
n/a	71AOCM501	Level 5 - Salary Band	2375.50 to 2663.50	123,949 to 138,976

Allowances

Micropay Code	Item No	Clause	Brief Description	Rate from 13.9.2008
3949	1	16	Climatic and Isolation Allowance (a)	4.30
3950	2	16	Climatic and Isolation Allowance (b)	8.70
356	3	29	Laundry Allowance per Week	12.50

Attachment 2

*IRC 2064 of 2006, 1123, 1355, 1356, 1357 of 2007 - Full Bench Walton VP, Staff J, Grayson DP
Work Value/Special Case - New Award - 12 September 2008.*

**OPERATIONAL AMBULANCE MANAGERS
(STATE) AWARD**

1. Title

This Award shall be known as the Operational Ambulance Managers (State) Award (“the Award”).

2. Arrangement

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Section 1. General

3. Object

The parties seek to achieve excellence in the provision of ambulance services for New South Wales through an efficient and effective pre-hospital emergency care and health related transport system.

4. Definitions

“**The Department**” means the New South Wales Department of Health.

“**The Service**” means the Ambulance Service of New South Wales.

“**Union**” means the Health Services Union.

“**Officer/Superintendent/Operational Manager**” means an employee of the Service who is employed pursuant to this Award.

“**Employee**” means an Officer/Superintendent/Operational Manager of the Service who is employed pursuant to this Award.

“**Service**” means continuous service with one or more District Committees prior to 13 April 1973, and continuous service as a servant of the New South Wales Ambulance Board on and from 13 April 1973, and continuous service as a servant of the Commission on and from 1 January 1977 and continuous service as a servant of the Corporation on and from 17 August 1982 and continuous service with the NSW Department of Health on and from 17 March 2006.

The “**Working Week**” for the purpose of this Award shall commence on Saturday and finish on Friday.

5. Classification Descriptions

“**Ambulance Manager Level 1**” means an employee who has the following responsibilities, skills and attributes:

- Accountability for ensuring funds are expended according to approved budgets and for ensuring targets are met.
- Responsibility to provide regular feedback and appraisal regarding the performance of staff.
- Responsibility for maintaining effective relationships with a range of stakeholders within the Service to ensure the Service’s priorities are met.
- Assist with the development and implementation of policies, procedures, standards and practices for the Service.
- Responsibility and accountability for providing a professional level of services to the Service or oversee the management of aspects of services and the staff.
- Understanding and commitment to the Service’s priorities;
- Capacity to direct all operational facets based on strategic and business plans;

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- Ability to ensure budget targets are met.
- Capacity to undertake performance appraisal of staff and ability to develop performance measures.
- Effective communication and interpersonal skills.
- Assist with the development and implementation of policies, procedures, standards and practices.
- Able to meet pre-determined targets and deadlines.
- Ability to be flexible and adapt work practices to suit circumstances.

“Ambulance Manager Level 2” means an employee who is required to demonstrate the following responsibilities, skills and attributes to a level greater than that required for a Level 1 Ambulance Manager:

- Accountability for allocation and/or expenditure of resources and ensuring targets are met.
- Responsibility for ensuring optimal budget outcomes for their customers and communities.
- Responsibility for providing regular feedback and appraisals for senior staff to improve health outcomes for customers and for maintaining a performance management system.
- Responsibility for providing support for the efficient, cost effective and timely delivery of services.
- High level of leadership, communication and interpersonal skills.
- Capacity to exercise creative and entrepreneurial solutions to improve productivity and effectiveness for customers.
- Proven negotiation and delegation skills.
- Ability to motivate and co-ordinate staff.
- Ability to provide input, interpret, monitor and evaluate policies, procedures and standards for customers.
- Capacity to design strategic and business objectives.
- Ability to develop performance measures

“Ambulance Manager Level 3” means an employee who is required to demonstrate the following responsibilities, skills and attributes to a level greater than that required for a Level 2 Ambulance Manager:

- Responsibility for reviewing senior staff performances through regular appraisal to improve health outcomes for patients and for maintaining a performance management system.
- Responsibility to maintain effective relationships and communication to ensure that corporate goals and priorities of the Health System are met.
- Responsibility for providing timely delivery of services and accountable to the appropriate Executive.
- Responsibility for contributing to the development and implementation of business plans.
- Requirement to make judgements and may in some cases, be delegated responsibility to approve changes in standard practice and procedures.
- Excellent leadership, communication and interpersonal skills.

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- Highly developed and effective management skills.
- Ability to develop, monitor and reach predicted outcomes to strategic and business plans.
- Highly developed and effective negotiation and delegation skills.
- Proven capacity to manage multi-disciplinary groups.
- Ability to make judgements and have sole delegated responsibility to approve changes in standards, practices, policies and procedures.

“Ambulance Manager Level 4” means an employee who is required to demonstrate the following responsibilities, skills and attributes to a level greater than that required for a Level 3 Ambulance Manager:

- Responsibility for ensuring optimal health outcomes within budget for their customers and communities.
- Accountability for allocating resources and ensuring budgets are effectively met.
- Responsibility for developing appropriate strategies to manage budget changes in a timely manner.
- Requirement to make complex judgements and make appropriate changes in standard practices, policies and procedures.
- Staff at this level are expected to develop/implement strategic business plans and ensure budgets are allocated and targets met.
- System-wide view of health care provision and management to improve health outcomes for customers.
- Excellent strategic planning and policy development skills.
- Proven management expertise at a senior level.
- Competent to make complex judgements and take initiatives through delegated responsibilities.

“Ambulance Manager Level 5” means an employee who is required to demonstrate the following responsibilities, skills and attributes to a level greater than that required for a Level 4 Ambulance Manager.

a) Authority & Accountability

- Freedom to operate within delegated authority, performance agreement, and Service or Health policy
- Recommend service priorities
- Exercise judgement within delegations
- Formulate policy and deliver programs in line with performance agreement
- Involvement in the development of long-term strategies
- Report directly to a member of the Service’s executive
- Budget management and responsibility for significant budget amount, or
- Management of complex area service or unit, requiring specialist advice and input
- Adherence to the Accounts and Audit and Determination for Area Health Services and all Statutory Requirements

(b) Judgement & Problem-Solving

- Exercise judgement and problem solving in service policy areas
- Frequent resolution of unusual and complex problems
- Develop business strategies and business plans
- Develop ideas, optional action plans, courses of action
- Anticipate and resolve problems in a challenging and dynamic environment
- Seek advice when there is no existing policy or precedent
- Use of evidence-based decision-making to back up decisions
- Sound ability to solve problems using innovative, creative solutions
- High level of technical expertise
- Provision of high level of expert advice and sound judgement
- Independent decision-making; exercising independent judgement
- Has a sound understanding of political and cross-Area Health Service issues and how they impact on the organisation
- Actively develop strategic partnerships

(c) Leadership & Management Skills

- Provide leadership, management and direction
- Actively contributes to shaping the organisation's strategic plan
- Ensures that the strategic plan is outcome-focussed, takes into account the short and long-term priorities, and is achievable
- Actively monitors progress towards the achievement of the strategic vision
- Achieve set objectives
- Resolve conflict
- Address and prioritise competing demands
- Lead and manage organisation change on an area-wide basis
- Build appropriate organisation values and culture
- Anticipate problems and develop contingency strategies to meet complex situations
- Applies intellectual rigour to all aspects of their work

(d) Personal & Interpersonal Skills

- Provide specialist advice
- Lead, persuade, motivate and negotiate at senior levels
- Ability to deal with people at all levels
- Communicate and liaise effectively at all levels within the organisation
- Spokesperson for area of responsibility (media, public)
- Effective community liaison and communication
- Effectively self-manages
- Innovative & lateral thinker
- Flexible & responsive
- Supports a reflective learning/quality culture that enables both individuals and the organisation to develop
- Articulates and promotes the organisation's vision and goals

- Promotes an environment in which traditional ways of thinking are challenged and debate is encouraged
- Provides effective role-modelling
- Celebrates achievements and encourages innovation

(e) Outcomes & Performance

- Formal personal agreement with CEO or the relevant General Manager.
- Significant impact on service achievements and targets
- Formal performance agreements with direct reports
- Achievement of best practice
- Monitoring and compliance with all professional standards
- Responsible for Service-wide service delivery

6. Work Arrangements

- (a) Work will be performed by the most efficient means.
- (b) The parties agree that there will be no forced transfers as a result of the implementation of subclause (a) of this clause.
- (c) Any proposal that will significantly affect employees covered by the Union will be the subject of genuine consultation between the parties.
- (d) Any dispute arising from the operation of this clause will be dealt with in accordance with clause 13, Issues Resolution, of this Award.

Section 2. Employment Conditions

7. Employees' Duties

- (a) The Service may direct an employee to carry out such duties as are reasonable, and within the limits of the employee's skills, competence and training consistent with the employee's classification provided that such duties are not designed to promote de-skilling.
- (b) The Service may direct an employee to carry out such duties and use such tools and equipment as may be required provided that the employee has been properly trained and is currently certified in the use of such tools and equipment.
- (c) Any direction issued by the Service pursuant to subclause (a) and (b) shall be consistent with the Service's responsibilities to provide a safe and healthy working environment.
- (d) The application of subclause (a) of this clause shall be undertaken in a fair, reasonable and sensible manner.

8. Vacancies & Promotion

- (a) Advertisements of vacant positions shall be notified throughout the Service by regular Vacancy Circulars clearly displayed on Notice Boards at all Ambulance Stations and Ambulance Workplaces.
- (b) Appointments shall be made on the basis of merit.
- (c) The vacancy shall be filled from applications received provided that the Service can re-advertise the position if necessary.

9. Appointment of Officers

- (a) An employee employed under this Award shall be engaged as a full time employee, a permanent part time employee or a temporary employee.
- (b) Every employee will be provided with a Position Description commensurate with his or her position which he or she will be required to sign. The position description will outline the duties to be performed in addition to the key competencies and accountabilities required for the position.
- (c) All employees will be required to enter into a Performance Agreement.
- (d) Every employee who is appointed to a Superintendent/Operational Manager position advertised/created after the date of the making of this Award will be required to continue to meet the minimum requirements for that position.
- (e) **Permanent Part-Time Employee**
 - (i) A permanent part-time employee is one who is permanently appointed by the Service to work a specified number of days each week which are less than those prescribed for a full time employee, except in emergent or urgent circumstances.
 - (ii) Permanent part-time employees shall be paid an hourly rate calculated on the basis of 1/38 of the weekly rate (annual rate/52.17857) prescribed in Table 1, Classification Structure, of Section 7 of this Award.
 - (iii) Permanent part-time employees shall not be entitled to additional rostered leave days off duty as prescribed in subclause (a) of clause 9, Roster Leave, of this Award.
 - (iv) Permanent part-time employees shall be entitled to all other benefits not otherwise expressly provided for herein in the same proportion as the average days per week bear to full-time employment.
 - (v) Permanent part-time employees shall be entitled to payment of the allowances prescribed by clause 16, Climate and Isolation Allowance, of this Award in the same proportion as the average hours worked per week bear to full-time hours.

- (vi) The parties recognise that permanent part-time employment will provide flexible working arrangements for employees to cater for personal requirements such as family responsibilities.

(f) Temporary Employee

- (i) A temporary employee is engaged for a continuous fixed period of time to carry out a specific task. Such task may include the provision of relief for permanent employees, conduct of specific projects or the provision of services which are not recurrent in nature.
- (ii) A temporary employee may be full time or part time.
- (iii) Time worked up to the rostered daily ordinary hours of work prescribed for a majority of the full-time employees employed on that shift in the station, unit or section concerned shall not be regarded as overtime but an extension of the contract hours for that day and shall be paid at the ordinary rate of pay.
- (iv) Temporary employees will be required to undertake and successfully complete all the requirements applicable to permanent full-time employees.

10. Roster Leave

- (a) Each employee shall be granted nine (9) days of absence in each period of 28 days with the ninth day of absence being designated the Additional Rostered Leave day off duty.
- (b) Such time off duty may be granted weekly or allowed to accumulate for 28 days, provided that when it is not convenient for the Service to grant the full amount of leave due under this clause in each period of 28 consecutive days, the employee shall not be called upon to forfeit such leave.
- (c) Leave under this clause shall not be allowed to accumulate to more than twelve (12) days.
- (e) Subject to clause 12, Termination of Employment, subclause (c), of this Award, payment in lieu of roster leave shall not be made.

11. Reasonable Hours

- (a) An employee may refuse to work overtime in circumstances where the working of such overtime would result in the employee working hours which are unreasonable.
- (b) For the purposes of sub-clause (b) what is reasonable or otherwise will be subject to sub-clause (b) an employer may require an employee to work reasonable overtime at overtime rates.

- (c) Determined having regard to:
 - (i) Any risk to employee health and safety.
 - (ii) The employee's personal circumstances including any family and carer responsibilities.
 - (iii) The needs of the workplace or enterprise.
 - (iv) The notice (if any) given by the employer of the overtime and by the employee of his or her intention to refuse it; and
 - (v) Any other relevant matter.

12. Public Holidays

- (a) For the purpose of this clause, the following shall be public holidays, viz: New Year's Day, Australia Day, Good Friday, Easter Saturday, Easter Monday, Anzac Day, Queen's Birthday, Local Labour Day, Christmas Day and Boxing Day.
- (b)
 - (i) An employee to whom paragraph (i) of subclause (a) of clause 21, Annual Leave, of this Award, applies, and who is required to and does work on a public holiday or a special public holiday proclaimed for the State of New South Wales shall be paid for the time actually worked at the rate of double time and one half.
 - (ii) An employee to whom paragraph (ii) of subclause (a) of clause 21, Annual Leave, of this Award, applies, and who is required to and does work on a public holiday or a special public holiday proclaimed for the State of New South Wales shall be paid for the time actually worked at the rate of time and one half.
 - (iii) For the purpose of paragraphs (i) and (ii) of this subclause, the hourly rate of pay shall be one-thirty eighth of the appropriate ordinary weekly rate of pay prescribed in Table 1, Classification Structure of this Award.
- (c) Special Public Holidays proclaimed for the State of New South Wales are to be granted or payment made as prescribed in paragraphs (i) and (ii) of subclause (b) of this clause, if not granted. Where an employee works on a seven day per week basis as set out in paragraph (ii) of subclause (a) of clause 21, Annual Leave, of this Award, and the employees rostered day off or annual leave falls due on such day, the employee shall be paid, in addition to the employees appropriate weekly rate of pay, an extra day's pay at ordinary rates.
- (d) In addition to those public holidays specified in subclause (a) of this clause, employees shall be entitled to an extra public holiday each year. Such public holiday will occur on a date determined by the Service and shall be regarded, for all purposes of this clause, as any other public holiday.

13. Termination of Employment

- (a) Employment shall be terminated by four (4) weeks notice in writing by either party or by the giving or forfeiting, as the case may be, of four weeks wages in lieu of notice. Notwithstanding this the Service shall have the right to terminate

an employee's employment without notice for serious or wilful misconduct in which case wages shall be paid up to the time of dismissal only.

- (b) The Service shall, upon request by the employee, give the employee a signed statement outlining the period of employment.
- (c) Employees with a credit of any additional rostered leave day off duty shall be paid for such accrual upon termination.

Section 3. Salaries and Monetary Entitlements

14. Salaries

- (a) Employees who are appointed to an Operational Management position shall be allocated to one of the classification levels as set out in Table 1, Classification Structure, of this Award, and shall not be paid less than the minimum level for that position.
- (b) An employee who successfully applies for a position covered by this Award where the salary band encompasses his or her current salary will be appointed at no less than his or her current salary.
- (c) An employee who successfully applies for a position which carries a higher minimum salary level than his or her current salary will be appointed at no less than the minimum of the applicable salary band.
- (d) Once the appointed employee's salary has been determined in accordance with subclause (a), (b) or (c) of this clause, the employee's salary will move in accordance with the percentage increases applicable under this Award.
- (e) Further increases over and above the percentage increases applicable under subclause (d) of this clause will occur based on the employee's work performance that will be measured against their Performance Agreement.
- (f) Any dispute arising from the operation of this clause shall be dealt with in accordance with clause 33, Issues Resolution, of this Award.

15. Payment and Particulars of Salaries

- (a) Wages shall be paid fortnightly by electronic transfer.
- (b) For each pay-day, employees shall be furnished with a statement showing the gross amount of ordinary wages and penalties together with separate details of all deductions.
- (c) Employees shall have their salary paid into one account with a bank or other financial institution in New South Wales as nominated by the employee except where agreement as to another method of payment has been reached between the Service and the Union due to isolation.

- (d) Salaries shall be deposited by the Service in sufficient time to ensure that wages are available for withdrawal by employees no later than pay day.

This requirement shall not apply where employees nominate accounts with non-bank financial institutions which lack the technological or other facilities to process salary deposits within 24 hours of the Service making their deposits. In such cases the Service shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that wages are available for withdrawal by no later than pay-day.

16. Climatic and Isolation Allowance

- (a) Subject to subclause (b) of this clause, employees attached to Ambulance Stations situated upon or to the West of a line drawn as herein specified, shall be paid the allowance specified in Table 2, Allowances of Section 7 of this Award, in addition to the salary to which they are otherwise entitled. The line shall be drawn as follows, viz:

Commencing at Tocumwal and thence to the following towns in the order stated, namely - Lockhart, Narrandera, Leeton, Peak Hill, Gilgandra, Dunedoo, Coolah, Boggabri, Inverell and Bonshaw.

- (b) Employees attached to Ambulance Stations situated upon or to the West of a line drawn as herein specified shall be paid the allowance specified in Table 2, Allowances of Section 7 of this Award, in addition to the salary to which they are otherwise entitled. The line shall be drawn as follows, viz:

Commencing at a point on the right bank of the Murray River opposite Swan Hill (Victoria) and thence to the following towns in the order stated namely - Hay, Hillston, Nyngan, Walgett, Collarenebri and Mungindi.

- (c) The allowances prescribed by this clause are not cumulative.
- (d) The allowances prescribed by this clause shall be regarded as part of the salary for the purposes of this Award.

17. Travel Allowances

Employees shall be granted travelling allowances on such terms and conditions prescribed by the Department's Policy Directive 2005_619 Travel - Official or its subsequent replacements.

18. Relieving Other Members of Staff

- (a) An employee who is required by the Service to relieve another employee paid on a higher scale for a period of not less than one working week shall be entitled to receive the minimum rate of the higher scale of pay.
- (b) This provision shall not apply when an employee on a higher scale is absent from duty by reason of his or her additional roster leave day off duty.

- (c) No reduction shall be made in the scale of pay of an employee called upon to relieve another employee paid on a lower scale.

19. Salary Sacrifice to Superannuation

- (a) Notwithstanding the salaries prescribed in clause 14 Salaries, as varied from time to time, an employee may elect, subject to the agreement of the employee's employer, to sacrifice a part or all of the salary payable under the salaries clause to additional employer superannuation contributions. Such election must be made prior to the commencement of the period of service to which the earnings relate. The amount sacrificed together with any salary packaging arrangements under clause 20 Salary Packaging, of this award may be made up to one hundred (100) per cent of the salary payable under the salaries clause, or up to one hundred (100) per cent of the currently applicable superannuable salary, whichever is the lesser.

In this clause, 'superannuable salary' means the employee's salary as notified from time to time to the New South Wales public sector superannuation trustee corporations.

- (b) Any pre-tax and post-tax payroll deductions must be taken into account prior to determining the amount of available salary to be packaged. Such payroll deductions may include but are not limited to superannuation payments, HECS payments, child support payments, judgment debtor/garnishee orders, union fees and private health fund membership fees.
- (c) Where the employee has elected to sacrifice a part or all of the available payable salary to additional employer superannuation contributions:
 - (i) The employee shall be provided with a copy of the signed agreement. The salary sacrifice agreement shall be terminated at any time at the employee's election and shall cease upon termination of the employee's services with the employer.
 - (ii) Subject to Australian taxation law, the amount of salary sacrificed will reduce the salary subject to appropriate PAYE taxation deductions by the amount sacrificed; and
 - (iii) Any allowance, penalty rate, overtime, payment for unused leave entitlements, weekly workers' compensation, or other payment, other than any payment for leave taken in service, to which an employee is entitled under the relevant award or any applicable award, act, or statute which is expressed to be determined by reference to an employee's salary, shall be calculated by reference to the salary which would have applied to the employee under the salaries clause in the absence of any salary sacrifice to superannuation made under this award.
- (d) The employee may elect to have the specified amount of payable salary which is sacrificed to additional employer superannuation contributions:

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- (i) paid into the superannuation scheme established under the First State Superannuation Act 1992 as optional employer contributions; or
 - (ii) subject to the employer's agreement, paid into a private sector complying superannuation scheme as employer superannuation contributions.
- (e) Where an employee elects to salary sacrifice in terms of subclause (iv) above, the employer will pay the sacrificed amount into the relevant superannuation fund.
- (f) Where the employee is a member of a superannuation scheme established under:
- (i) the Police Regulation (Superannuation) Act, 1906;
 - (ii) the Superannuation Act, 1916;
 - (iii) the State Authorities Superannuation Act, 1987;
 - (iv) the State Authorities Non-contributory Superannuation Act, 1987; or
 - (v) the First State Superannuation Act, 1992.

The employee's employer must ensure that the amount of any additional employer superannuation contributions specified in subclause (i) above is included in the employee's superannuable salary which is notified to the New South Wales public sector superannuation trustee corporations.

- (g) Where, prior to electing to sacrifice a part or all of their salary to superannuation, an employee had entered into an agreement with their employer to have superannuation contributions made to a superannuation fund other than a fund established under legislation listed in subclause (vi) above, the employer will continue to base contributions to that fund on the salary payable under clause 14 Salaries of the Award to the same extent as applied before the employee sacrificed that amount of salary to superannuation. This clause applies even though the superannuation contributions made by the employer may be in excess of the superannuation guarantee requirements after the salary sacrifice is implemented.

20. Salary Packaging

- (a) By agreement with their employer, employees may elect to package part or all of their salary in accordance with this clause, to obtain a range of benefits as set out in the NSW Health Services Salary Packaging Policy and Procedure Manual, as amended from time to time. Such election must be made prior to the commencement of the period of service to which the earnings relate. Where an employee also elects to salary sacrifice to superannuation under this award, the combined amount of salary packaging/sacrificing may be up to 100 per cent of salary.

Any salary packaging above the fringe benefit exemption cap will attract fringe benefits tax as described in paragraph (d) below.

- (b) Where an employee elects to package an amount of salary:

- (i) Subject to Australian taxation law, the packaged amount of salary will reduce the salary subject to PAYE taxation deductions by that packaged amount.
 - (ii) Any allowance, penalty rate, overtime payment, payment for unused leave entitlements, weekly workers' compensation, or other payment other than any payment for leave taken in service, to which an employee is entitled under this award or statute which is expressed to be determined by reference to an employee's salary, shall be calculated by reference to the salary which would have applied to the employee under this award in the absence of any salary packaging or salary sacrificing made under this award.
 - (iii) 'Salary' for the purpose of this clause, for superannuation purposes, and for the calculation of award entitlements, shall mean the award salary as specified in clause 14 Salaries, and which shall include 'approved employment benefits' which refer to fringe benefit savings, administration costs, and the value of packaged benefits.
- (c) Any pre-tax and post-tax payroll deductions must be taken into account prior to determining the amount of available salary to be packaged. Such payroll deductions may include but are not limited to superannuation payments, HECS payments, child support payments, judgement debtor/garnishee orders, union fees, and private health fund membership fees.
 - (d) The salary packaging scheme utilises a fringe benefit taxation exemption status conferred on public hospitals and area health services, which provides for a fringe benefit tax exemption cap of \$17,000 per annum. The maximum amount of fringe benefits-free tax savings that can be achieved under the scheme is where the value of benefits when grossed-up, equal the fringe benefits exemption cap of \$17,000. Where the grossed-up value exceeds the cap, the employer is liable to pay fringe benefits tax on the amount in excess of \$17,000, but will pass this cost on to the employee. The employer's share of savings, the combined administration cost, and the value of the package benefits, are deducted from pre-tax dollars.
 - (e) The parties agree that the application of the fringe benefits tax exemption status conferred on public hospitals and area health services is subject to prevailing Australian taxation laws.
 - (f) If an employee wishes to withdraw from the salary packaging scheme, the employee may only do so in accordance with the required period of notice as set out in the Salary Packaging Policy and Procedure Manual.
 - (g) Where an employee ceases to salary package, arrangements will be made to convert the agreed package amount to salary. Any costs associated with the conversion will be borne by the employee, and the employer shall not be liable

to make up any salary lost as a consequence of the employee's decision to convert to salary.

- (h) Employees accepting the offer to salary package do so voluntarily. Employees are advised to seek independent financial advice and counselling to apprise them of the implications of salary packaging on their individual personal financial situations.
- (i) The employer and the employee shall comply with the procedures set out in the NSW Health Services Salary Packaging Policy and Procedure Manual as amended from time to time.

Section 4. Leave Entitlements

21. Annual Leave

- (a) Annual Leave shall be granted on completion of each 12 months service as follows:
 - (i) An employee employed on a Monday to Friday basis - four weeks leave on full pay.
 - (ii) An employee employed on duties which require him or her to work irregular hours on a seven day per week basis, including work on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays - five weeks leave with seven week's pay.
- (b) In the event that an employee's employment has changed from a seven day per week basis to a Monday to Friday basis or vice versa, then annual leave shall be calculated on a pro rata basis.
- (c) It is admitted by the parties that the additional two weeks pay payable to an employee employed on duties in accordance with paragraph (ii) of subclause (a) of this clause has been provided in lieu of and in consideration of public holidays being worked by employees or which have occurred on an employee's rostered day off.
- (d) To the leave prescribed by paragraph (i) of subclause (a) of this clause, there shall be added one working day for each public holiday or special public holiday proclaimed for the State of New South Wales which occurs during a period of annual leave.
- (e)
 - (i) Annual Leave shall be given and shall be taken within a period of six months after the date when the right to annual leave accrued, provided that the giving and taking of such leave may be postponed by mutual agreement between the parties for a further period not exceeding six months.
 - (ii) Annual leave shall be granted on a rotating roster basis provided that such rotation complies with paragraph (i) of this subclause.

- (iii) An employee shall be eligible for annual leave when twelve months have elapsed since the date on which the last annual leave would have begun if taken immediately it had become due, or if the employee has not previously had Annual Leave since the commencement of the employment.
 - (iv) Nothing in this subclause shall prevent the Service, by agreement with the employee, from allowing annual leave to an employee before a right to it has accrued but where leave is taken in such a case, a further period of annual leave shall not commence to accrue until the expiration of the twelve months in respect of which annual leave was taken before it accrued. Provided that any leave taken by an employee under this paragraph shall not exceed the amount of proportionate annual leave standing to the credit of the employee at the time of entering upon such leave.
 - (v) At least six months notice shall be given to employees of the date on which they shall take their annual leave. Where an employee has been notified that he or she is to take annual leave at a specified time and that time is then altered by the Service the employee shall be reimbursed any actual losses which result to him or her to the extent to which deposits paid for travel and/or accommodation are not refunded.
 - (vi) Employees may exchange annual leave by mutual arrangement with the approval of the Service provided that such exchange complies with paragraph (i) of this subclause.
- (f) Each employee before going on annual leave shall be paid for the period of the leave at the ordinary rate of wage to which he or she is entitled under this Award and such payment shall be made before the employee commences annual leave.
 - (g) Notwithstanding the provisions of subclause (f) of this clause, the Service agrees, subject to at least 28 days prior written authorisation by the employee, to pay employees Annual Leave entitlements on a fortnightly basis which coincides with the normal fortnightly pay period.
 - (h) Where the employment of an employee is terminated the employee shall be entitled to receive a proportionate payment in respect of service of less than one year, at the weekly wage to which such employee is entitled under this Award.
 - (i) Credit of time towards an additional rostered leave day off duty shall not accrue when an employee is absent during his or her four weeks annual leave as provided for under the *Annual Holidays Act 1944*. However, officers entitled to additional rostered leave days off duty in accordance with clause 10, Roster Leave, of this Award, shall accrue credit towards an additional rostered leave day off to employees in excess of the above mentioned four weeks.

22. Annual Leave Loading

- (a) Employees who, under the *Annual Holidays Act 1944*, become entitled to annual leave under clause 21, Annual Leave, of this Award, shall be paid in respect of such leave an annual leave loading of 17.5 per cent of the appropriate ordinary weekly rate of pay prescribed in Table 1, Classification Structure of this Award, for the classification in which the employee was employed immediately before commencing his/her annual leave. The 17.5 per cent annual leave loading will apply to the following periods of annual leave, ie; in the case of an employee employed on a Monday to Friday basis - four weeks, and for seven day per week basis employees - five weeks, provided further that in no instance is the calculated amount to exceed one thousand four hundred and twenty-one dollars and zero cents (\$1421.00) with effect from the first pay period to commence on or after 1 July 2007.
- (b) Such loading is payable in addition to the pay for the period of leave given and taken and due to the employee under this Award.
- (c) No loading is payable where the annual leave is taken wholly or partly in advance provided, however, that if the employment of such an employee continues until the day upon which he or she would have become entitled under this to such annual leave, the loading then becomes payable in respect of the period of such leave and is to be calculated in accordance with the rate of wages applicable on such day.
- (d) Where the employment of an employee is terminated by the Service for a cause other than misconduct and at the time of termination the employee has not been given and has not taken the whole of the annual leave to which he or she became entitled after 10 May 1974, he or she shall be paid the loading provided for in subclause (a) of this clause for the period not taken.
- (e) Except as provided by subclause (d) of this clause, no loading is payable on the termination of an employee's employment.
- (f) The annual leave loading shall be paid before the employee commences annual leave.
- (g) Notwithstanding the provisions of subclause (f) of this clause, the Service agrees, subject to at least 28 days prior written authorisation by the employee, to pay employees Annual Leave loading on a fortnightly basis which coincides with the normal fortnightly pay period.

23. Family and Community Services Leave and Personal/Carer's Leave

Employees shall be granted family and community services leave and personal/carer's leave in accordance with the provisions of the Department's Policy Directive 2007_031 Family and Community Services Leave and Personal/Carer's Leave or its subsequent replacements

24. Maternity, Adoption and Parental Leave

This clause is to be read in conjunction with the Service's Instructional Circular 05/16 or subsequent replacement Instructional Circulars as issued by the Service.

A. Maternity Leave

(a) Eligibility for Paid Maternity Leave

(i) Full time employees

Female employees who prior to the expected date of birth, have completed at least forty (40) weeks continuous service (of not less than 31.25 hours per week) are eligible for paid maternity leave.

(ii) Permanent part-time employees

Permanent part-time employees are employees engaged on a permanent part-time basis as defined by their Award. Female employees employed on this basis are entitled to pro-rata paid maternity leave after forty (40) weeks continuous service.

(iii) An employee who has once met conditions for paid maternity leave will not be required to again work the forty (40) weeks continuous service in order to qualify for a further period of paid maternity leave, unless:

- (1) there has been a break in service where the employee has been re-employed or re-appointed after resignation, medical retirement, or after her services have been otherwise dispensed with; or
- (2) the employee has completed a period of leave without pay of more than forty (40) weeks. In this context, leave without pay does not include sick leave without pay, maternity leave without pay, or leave without pay associated with an illness or injury compensable under workers' compensation legislation.

(b) Entitlements to Paid Maternity Leave

(i) Eligible employees are entitled to fourteen (14) weeks at the ordinary rate of pay from the date maternity leave commences. This leave may commence up to fourteen (14) weeks prior to the expected date of birth.

(ii) Paid maternity leave may be paid:

- on a normal fortnightly basis; or
- in advance in a lump sum; or
- at the rate of half pay over a period of twenty-eight (28) weeks on a regular fortnightly basis.

Annual and/or long service leave credits can be combined with periods of maternity leave on half pay to enable an employee to remain on full pay for that period.

- (iii) Should an employee return to duty during the period of paid maternity leave, such paid leave ceases from the date duties are resumed.

(C) Entitlements To Unpaid Maternity Leave

- (i) An employee entitled to paid maternity leave is entitled to a further period of unpaid maternity leave of not more than twelve (12) months from the actual date of birth. The leave therefore does not extend beyond the child's first birthday.
- (ii) Full time or permanent part time female employees who are not eligible for paid maternity leave are entitled to unpaid maternity leave of not more than 12 months.

(d) Applications for Maternity Leave

- (i) An employee who intends to proceed on maternity leave should formally notify their Divisional Manager (in writing) of such intention as early as possible however, not less than eight (8) weeks prior to the commencement of leave. This notice must include a statement of:
 - (1) The intention to proceed on maternity leave;
 - (2) The expected date of birth certified by a medical practitioner;
 - (3) The period of leave to be taken;
 - (4) The date on which maternity leave is to commence;
 - (5) A Statutory Declaration stating any period of parental leave sought or taken by the employee's spouse. This declaration must also state that the applicant is the child's primary caregiver for the period of leave sought.
 - (6) The entitlement to maternity leave is reduced by any period of parental leave taken by the employee's spouse. Apart from parental leave of one (1) week at the time of birth, maternity leave is not to be taken concurrently with parental leave except as otherwise provided at subclause (a)(i) of Part D of this clause.

(e) Applications for Further Maternity Leave

- (i) Where an employee becomes pregnant whilst on maternity leave a further period of maternity leave shall be granted. If an employee enters on the second period of maternity leave during the currency of the initial period of maternity leave, then any residual maternity leave from the initial entitlement ceases.
- (ii) An employee who commences a subsequent period of maternity leave while on unpaid maternity leave under subclause (c)(i) of Part A of this

clause or subclause (a)(ii) of Part D of this clause is entitled to be paid at their normal rate (ie the rate at which they were paid before proceeding on maternity leave).

- (iii) An employee who commences a subsequent period of maternity leave during the first 12 months of a return to duty on a part time basis as provided under subclause (a)(iii) of Part D of this clause is entitled to be paid at their substantive full time rate for the subsequent period of maternity leave.
- (iv) An employee who commences a subsequent period of maternity leave more than 12 months after returning to duty on a part time basis under subclause (a)(iii) of Part D of this clause, will be entitled to paid maternity leave for the subsequent period of maternity leave at their part time rate.

(f) Variations of Maternity Leave

After commencing maternity leave, an employee may vary the period of her maternity leave –

- (i) once without the consent of the Service, but with a minimum of fourteen (14) days notice in writing; and
- (ii) otherwise with the consent of the Service, with a minimum of fourteen (14) days notice in writing.

However, more advanced notice is encouraged, especially for uniformed staff because of roster arrangements.

(g) Staffing Provisions

In accordance with obligations established by the Industrial Relations Act 1996 (Section 69) any person who occupies the position of an employee on maternity leave must be informed that the employee has the right to return to her former position. Additionally, since an employee has the right to vary the period of her maternity leave; offers of temporary employment should be in writing, stating clearly the temporary nature of the contract of employment. The duration of employment should be also set down clearly; to a fixed date or until the employee elects to return to duty, whichever occurs first.

(h) Effect of Maternity Leave on Accrual of Leave, Increments, etc

- (i) Unpaid maternity leave does not count as service for the purposes of accruing sick leave (unless the period of unpaid leave is less than one month, although it is unlikely that unpaid maternity leave would be for such a lesser period), annual leave (unless the period of unpaid maternity leave is less than 28 calendar days) or long service leave (unless the

employee has completed ten years service and the period of unpaid maternity leave is less than six months).

- (ii) Unpaid maternity leave is not to be counted as service for determining incremental progression. Periods of maternity leave at full pay and at half pay are to be regarded as service for incremental progression on a pro-rata basis. Notwithstanding the foregoing, increments based on age must be paid on attainment of the appropriate age.
 - (iii) During a period of unpaid maternity leave the employee will not be required to meet the employer's superannuation liability. The employee will, however, be required to make any necessary arrangements for their own contributions.
 - (iv) When the employee has resumed duties, any period of full pay leave is counted in full for the accrual of annual leave and any period of maternity leave on half pay is taken into account to the extent of one half thereof when determining the accrual of annual leave.
 - (v) Except in the case of employees who have completed ten (10) years service the period of maternity leave without pay does not count as service for long service leave purposes. Where the employee has completed ten (10) years service, the period of maternity leave without pay shall count as service provided such leave does not exceed six (6) months.
 - (vi) Where public holidays occur during the period of paid maternity leave, payment is at the rate of maternity leave received, ie. public holidays occurring in a period of full pay maternity leave are paid at full rate and those occurring during a period of half pay leave are paid at half rate.
- (i) **Illness Associated with Pregnancy**
- (i) If, because of an illness associated with her pregnancy, an employee is unable to continue to work, then she can elect to use any available paid leave (sick, annual and/or long service leave) or to take any sick leave without pay.
 - (ii) Where an employee is entitled to paid maternity leave but, because of illness or injury, is on workers' compensation, sick, annual, long service leave, or sick leave without pay prior to the birth, such leave will cease nine (9) weeks prior to the expected date of birth. The employee will then commence on maternity leave with the normal provisions applying.
- (j) **Effect of Premature Birth on Payment of Maternity Leave**
- An employee who gives birth prematurely prior to proceeding on maternity leave, shall be treated as being on maternity leave from the date she enters on leave to give birth to the child.

(k) Stillbirth

In the case of a stillbirth, (as classified by the Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages) an employee may elect to take sick leave or maternity leave, subject to production of a medical certificate. She may resume duty at any time provided she produces a doctor's certificate as to her fitness.

(l) Miscarriage

In the event of a miscarriage, any absence from work is to be covered by the current sick leave provisions.

(m) Fitness to Continue Working During Pregnancy and Alternative Work

(i) Whilst an employee may commence maternity leave up to fourteen (14) weeks, prior to the expected date of birth, this is not compulsory. However, if an employee decides to continue working prior to taking maternity leave, she must be able to satisfactorily perform her normal duties.

(ii) Where, because of an illness or risk associated with her pregnancy, an employee cannot carry out the duties of her position, an employer is obligated, as far as practicable, to provide alternative employment in some other position that she is able to satisfactorily to perform, until maternity leave commences. A position to which an employee is transferred under these circumstances must be as close as possible in status and salary to her substantive position.

(n) Right to Return to Previous Position

(i) An employee who returns to work after maternity leave has a right to return to her former position.

(ii) Where this position no longer exists, the employee is entitled to be placed in a position nearest in status and salary to that of her former position and to which the employee is capable and/or qualified.

(o) Portability of Service for Paid Maternity Leave

When determining an employee's eligibility for paid maternity leave, continuous service with an organisation that is part of the public sector service as defined in the Public Sector Employment and Management Act 2002 will be recognised, provided that:

- service was on a full time or permanent part time (as specified) basis;
- cessation of service with the former employer was not by reason of dismissal on any ground, except retrenchment or reduction of work;

- the employee commences duty with the new employer on the next working day after ceasing employment with the former employer. (There may be a break in service of up to 2 months before commencing duty with the new employer, provided that the new position was secured before ceasing duty with the former employer. However, such a break in service will not be counted as service for the purpose of calculating any prior service prerequisite for paid maternity leave.)
- Portability of service for paid maternity leave involves the recognition of service in public sector organisations for the purpose of determining an employee's eligibility to receive paid maternity leave. For example, where an employee moves between a Public Service Department and a public hospital, previous continuous service will be counted towards the service prerequisite for paid maternity leave.

B Adoption Leave

(a) Eligibility for Adoption Leave

- (i) All full time and permanent part time employees who are adopting a child and are to be the primary care giver of the child are entitled to unpaid adoption leave .
- (ii) Employees who are adopting a child and are to be the primary care giver of the child are entitled to paid adoption leave as follows:

Full time employees

Employees who, prior to the date of taking custody of the child, have completed 40 weeks continuous service (of not less than 31.25 hours per week) are eligible for paid adoption leave.

Permanent part-time employees

Permanent part-time employees are employees engaged in a permanent part-time basis as defined by their Award. These employees are entitled to pro-rata paid adoption leave after forty (40) weeks continuous service.

- (iii) An employee who has once met conditions for paid adoption leave will not be required to again work the forty (40) weeks continuous service in order to qualify for a further period of paid adoption leave, unless:
 - (1) there has been a break in service where the employee has been re-employed or re-appointed after resignation, medical retirement, or after her services have been otherwise dispensed with; or
 - (2) the employee has completed a period of leave without pay of more than forty (40) weeks. In this context, leave without pay does not include sick leave without pay, maternity leave without

pay, or leave without pay associated with an illness or injury compensable under workers' compensation legislation.

(b) Entitlements

(i) Paid Adoption Leave

Eligible employees are entitled to fourteen (14) weeks at the ordinary rate of pay. This leave may commence from the date of taking custody of the child.

Paid adoption leave may be paid:

- on a normal fortnightly basis; or
- in advance in a lump sum; or
- at the rate of half pay over a period of twenty-eight (28) weeks on a regular fortnightly basis.

Annual and/or long service leave credits can be combined with periods of adoption leave at half pay to enable an employee to remain on full pay for that period.

(ii) Unpaid Adoption Leave

Eligible employees are entitled to unpaid adoption leave as follows:

- where the child is under the age of 12 months - a period of not more than 12 months from the date of taking custody;
- where the child is over the age of 12 months and under 18 years old - a period of up to 12 months, such period to be agreed upon by both the employee and the employer.

(c) Applications for Adoption Leave

(i) Due to the fact that an employee may be given little notice of the date of taking custody of a child, employees who believe that, in the reasonably near future, they will take custody of a child, should formally notify the employer as early as practicable of the intention to take adoption leave, normally 8 weeks prior. This will allow arrangements associated with the adoption leave to be made.

(ii) A statement must also be provided from the adoption agency or appropriate body/government authority confirming that the applicant/employee is to have custody and the expected date of placement of the child.

(d) Applications for Further Adoption Leave

Same provisions as maternity leave.

(e) Variations of Adoption Leave

Same provisions as maternity leave.

(f) Staffing Provisions

Same provisions as maternity leave.

(g) Effect of Adoption Leave on Accrual of Leave, Increments, etc

Same provisions as maternity leave.

(h) Right to Return to Previous Position

Same provisions as maternity leave.

(i) Portability of Service for Paid Adoption Leave

Same provisions as maternity leave.

C Parental Leave

(a) Eligibility for Parental Leave

(i) Full time employees

Employees who, prior to the expected date of birth or to the date of taking custody of the child, have completed 40 weeks continuous service (of not less than 31.25 hours per week) are eligible for parental leave.

(ii) Permanent part-time employees

Permanent part-time employees are employees engaged in a permanent part-time basis as defined by their Award. These employees are entitled to pro-rata paid parental leave after forty (40) weeks continuous service.

(iii) An employee who has once met conditions for parental leave will not be required to again work the forty (40) weeks continuous service in order to qualify for a further period of parental leave, unless:

- (1) there has been a break in service where the employee has been re-employed or re-appointed after resignation, medical retirement, or after her services have been otherwise dispensed with; or
- (2) the employee has completed a period of leave without pay of more than forty (40) weeks. In this context, leave without pay does not include sick leave without pay, maternity leave without pay, or leave without pay associated with an illness or injury compensable under workers' compensation legislation.

(b) Entitlements

Eligible employees whose spouse or partner (including a same sex partner) is pregnant or is taking custody of a child, are entitled to a period of leave not exceeding 52 weeks, which includes one week of paid leave, and may be taken as follows:

- (i) an unbroken period of up to one week at the time of the birth of the child, taking custody of the child or other termination of the pregnancy (short parental leave).
- (ii) the entitlement of one week's paid leave may be taken at anytime within the 52 week period and shall be paid:
 - at the employees ordinary rate of pay for a period not exceeding one week on full pay, or
 - two weeks at half pay or the period of parental leave taken, whichever is the lesser period.
- (iii) a further unbroken period of unpaid parental leave not exceeding 52 weeks when added to short parental leave in order to be the primary caregiver of the child (extended parental leave).
- (iv) extended parental leave cannot be taken at the same time as the employee's spouse or partner is on maternity or adoption leave, except as otherwise provided at subclause (a)(i) of Part D of this clause.

Annual and/or long service leave credits can be combined with periods of parental leave at half pay to enable an employee to remain on full pay for that period.

(c) Applications for Parental Leave

- (i) An employee who intends to proceed on parental leave should formally notify their employer of such intention as early as possible, so that arrangements associated with their absence can be made.
- (ii) The employee should give written notice of the intention to take the leave, at least four weeks before proceeding on leave, and should detail the dates on which they propose to start and end the period of leave. It is recognised in situations of taking custody of a child, little or no notice may be provided to the employee. In such an instance, the employee should notify the employer as early as practicable.
- (iii) The employee must, before the start of leave, provide a certificate from a medical practitioner confirming that their spouse or partner is pregnant and the expected date of birth, or in the case of an adoption, an official form or notification on taking custody of the child.

- (iv) In the case of extended parental leave, the employee must, before the start of leave, provide a statutory declaration by the employee stating:
 - if applicable, the period of any maternity leave sought or taken by his spouse, and
 - that they are seeking the period of extended parental leave to become the primary caregiver of the child.

- (d) Variations of Parental Leave
Same provisions as maternity leave.

- (e) Staffing Provisions
Same provisions as maternity leave.

- (f) Effect of Parental Leave on Accrual of Leave, Increments, etc.
Same provisions as maternity leave.

- (g) Right to Return to Previous Position
Same provisions as maternity leave.

- (h) Portability of Service for Paid Parental Leave
Same provisions as maternity leave.

D Right to Request

- (a) An employee entitled to maternity, adoption or parental leave may request the employer to allow the employee:
 - (i) to extend the period of simultaneous parental leave use up to a maximum of eight weeks;
 - (ii) to extend the period of unpaid maternity, adoption or extended parental leave for a further continuous period of leave not exceeding 12 months;
 - (iii) to return from a period of maternity, adoption or parental leave on a part time basis until the child reaches school age;to assist the employee in reconciling work and parental responsibilities.

- (b) The employer shall consider the request having regard to the employee's circumstances and, provided the request is genuinely based on the employee's parental responsibilities, may only refuse the request on reasonable grounds related to the effect on the workplace or the employer's business. Such grounds

might include cost, lack of adequate replacement staff, loss of efficiency and the impact on customer service.

- (c) The employee's request and the employer's decision made under subclauses (a)(ii) and (iii) of this Part must be recorded in writing.
- (d) Where an employee wishes to make a request under subclause (a)(iii) of this Part:
 - (i) the employee is to make an application for leave without pay to reduce their full time weekly hours of work;
 - (ii) such application must be made as early as possible to enable the employer to make suitable staffing arrangements. At least four weeks notice must be given;
 - (iii) salary and other conditions of employment are to be adjusted on a basis proportionate to the employee's full time hours, that is for long service leave the period of service is to be converted to the full time equivalent and accredited accordingly.

E Communication During Leave

- (a) Where an employee is on maternity, adoption or parental leave and a definite decision has been made to introduce significant change at the workplace, the employer shall take reasonable steps to:
 - (i) make information available in relation to any significant effect the change will have on the status or responsibility level of the position the employee held before commencing leave; and
 - (ii) provide an opportunity for the employee to discuss any significant effect the change will have on the status or responsibility level of the position the employee held before commencing leave.
- (b) The employee shall take reasonable steps to inform the employer about any significant matter that will affect the employee's decision regarding the duration of leave to be taken, whether the employee intends to request to return to work on a part time basis.
- (c) The employee shall also notify the employer of changes of address or other contact details which might affect the employer's capacity to comply with subclause (a) of this Part.

25. Study Leave

Employees shall be granted Study Leave on such terms and conditions as prescribed by the Service's Instructional Circular 96/04 or its subsequent replacements.

26. Trade Union Leave

Employees shall be granted Trade Union Leave on such terms and conditions prescribed by the Department's Policy Directive PD2006_097 Trade Union Activities or its subsequent replacements.

27. Long Service Leave

- (a) Employees shall be granted long service leave on such terms and conditions as may be applicable from time to time to officers employed under the provisions of the Public Sector Employment and Management Act 2002, and the regulations made there under. This includes the taking of long service leave on half pay.
- (b) Where an employee has accrued a right to an additional rostered leave day off duty on pay prior to entering a period of long service leave such day shall be taken on the next working day immediately following the period of long service leave.
- (c) An employee returning to duty from long service leave shall be given the next additional rostered leave day off duty in sequence irrespective of whether sufficient credits have been accumulated or not.

28. Sick Leave

- (a) If the Service is satisfied that an employee is unable to perform his or her duties on account of illness, not attributable to the employee's misconduct, it shall grant to such employee leave of absence on full pay for a period or periods as follows:
 - (i) All employees shall be entitled to sick leave for a period or periods not exceeding in the aggregate of 114 hours in any period of twelve months.
 - (ii) In the event of an employee not taking the full period of 114 hours in any period of twelve (12) months, the untaken period of such leave shall accumulate. A maximum of 76 hours of the untaken hours in each period of twelve (12) months shall accumulate in respect of available sick leave which accumulated prior to 20 June 1980.
 - (iii) Periods of less than thirty eight (38) hours shall not be recredited to employees who are sick whilst on Annual or Long Service Leave.
- (b)
 - (i) The Service shall not, with the sole object of avoiding obligations under this clause, terminate the services of an employee who is unable to perform his or her duties on account of illness and who is entitled to sick leave under this clause.
 - (ii) The employee shall notify the Service, where practicable, of his or her inability to attend for duty at least four (4) hours but in any case no less

than one (1) hour before the commencement time of duty and inform the Service as far as possible the estimated duration of same.

- (c) All periods of sickness shall be certified by a legally qualified Medical Practitioner, provided however, that the Service may dispense with the requirements of a medical certificate where the absence does not exceed two (2) consecutive days or where, in the Service's opinion, circumstances are such as not to warrant such requirements.
- (d) An employee shall not be entitled to sick leave on full pay for any period in respect of which such employee is entitled to accident pay or workers' compensation, provided, however, that where an employee is not in receipt of accident pay, the Service shall pay to an employee, who has sick leave entitlements under this clause, the difference between the amount received, as workers' compensation and full pay. The employee's sick leave entitlement under this clause shall, for each week during which such difference is paid, be reduced by the proportion of hours which the difference bears to full time hours. On the expiration of available sick leave, weekly workers compensation payments only shall be payable.
- (e) Any accumulation of sick leave standing to the credit of an employee at the date of commencement of this Award, shall be added to the leave which is accumulated pursuant to paragraph (ii) of subclause (a) of this clause.

Section 5. Miscellaneous

29. Uniforms

- (a)
 - (i) The Service shall provide each new employee with sufficient, suitable and serviceable uniforms as determined by the Service.
 - (ii) Uniforms provided shall be replaced by the Service upon condemnation in equivalent numbers.
 - (iii) The Service shall provide any other special clothing which the Service requires an employee to wear.
 - (iv) Articles of clothing issued under paragraphs (i) and (iii) of this subclause remain the property of the Service and shall be returned by the employee upon request by the Service.
- (b) Any request for uniform replacement by the Service or an employee will not be unreasonably refused. In the event of refusal the provision of clause 13, Issues Resolution, of this Award, shall apply.
- (c) Employees required to wear a uniform shall be paid a laundry allowance as prescribed in Table 2 of Section 8 Monetary Rates.

30. Redundancy–Managing Displaced Employees

Employees shall be entitled to the provisions of the Department’s Policy Directive PD2007_085 Managing Displaced Staff of the NSW Health Service or its subsequent replacement.

31. Union Subscriptions

The Service agrees, subject to prior written authorisation by the employee, to deduct Union subscriptions from the pay of the authorising employee.

32. Accommodation

- (a) In addition to the salary levels prescribed in Table 1, Classification Structure, of Part B of this Award, Officers, employed at the beginning of the first pay period which commenced on or after 25 September 1976 shall be entitled to quarters rent-free and shall be supplied without charge with light and fuel provided that Officers appointed to new positions created after 17 March, 1965 which do not require the occupant personally and directly to provide ambulance services at night or weekends, shall not necessarily be entitled to quarters rent-free or light and fuel without charge.
- (b) Where an employee is provided with premises and is transferred or resigns the Officer shall be given not less than twenty-eight (28) days notice to vacate such premises. The notice shall take effect from the date of notification of transfer or resignation.

Section 6. Award Parameters

33. Issues Resolution

- (a) The parties must:
 - (i) Use their best endeavours to cooperate in order to avoid grievances and disputes arising between the parties or between the Service and individual employee(s); and
 - (ii) Abide by the procedures set out in this clause to resolve any issue which might arise; and
 - (iii) Place emphasis on negotiating a settlement of any issue at the earliest possible stage in the process.
- (b) In this clause “issue” means any question, issue, grievance, dispute or difficulty which might arise between the parties about:
 - (i) The interpretation, application or operation of this Award; or

- (ii) Any allegation of discrimination in employment within the meaning of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977 (NSW) which is not covered by established policies and procedures applicable to the Service, regardless of whether the issue relates to an individual employee or to a group of employees.
- (c) Any issue, and in the case of a grievance or dispute any remedy sought, must be discussed in the first instance by the employee(s) (or the Union on behalf of the employee(s) if the employee(s) so request) and the immediate supervisor of that employee(s).
- (d) If the issue is not resolved within a reasonable time it must be referred by the employee(s) immediate supervisor to his or her Supervisor (or his or her nominee) and may be referred by the employee(s) to the Union Organiser for the Service. Discussions at this level must take place and be concluded within two working days of referral or such extended period as may be agreed.
- (e) If the issue remains unresolved, it may be referred by any of the parties to more senior officials of the Union who must then confer with the General Manager Operations (and/or his or her nominee(s)) of the Service. The conclusions reached by those representatives must be reported to the parties within two working days of referral or such extended periods as may be agreed.
- (f) If these procedures are exhausted without the issue being resolved, or if any of the time limits set out in those procedures are not met, parties may seek to have the matter mediated by an agreed third party, or the matter may be referred, in accordance with the provisions of the Industrial Relations Act 1996 (NSW), to the Industrial Relations Commission for its assistance in resolving the issue.
- (g) Unless agreed otherwise by the parties the status quo before the emergence of the issue must continue whilst these procedures are being followed. For this purpose “status quo” means the work procedures and practices in place:
 - (i) immediately before the issue arose; or
 - (ii) immediately before any change to those procedures or practices, which caused the issue to arise, was made.

The Service must ensure that all practices applied during the operation of these procedures are in accordance with safe working practices.

- (h) Throughout all the stages of these procedures adequate records must be kept by the parties of all discussions.
- (i) These procedures are to be facilitated by the earliest possible advice by one party to the other of any issue or problem which may give rise to a grievance or dispute.

- (j) All matters in dispute arising out of the application of this Award may be referred to a Disputes Committee consisting of not more than six (6) members with equal representation of the Corporation and the Union. Such Committee shall have the power to investigate all matters in dispute and report to the Corporation and the Union, respectively, with such recommendation as it may think right and in the event of no mutual decision being arrived at by the Committee, the matter in dispute may be referred to the Industrial Relations Commission of N.S.W.

34. Anti-Discrimination

- (a) It is intention of the parties bound by this Award to seek to achieve the object in section 3(f) of the Industrial Relations Act 1996 to prevent and eliminate discrimination in the workplace. This includes discrimination on the grounds of race, sex, marital status, disability, homosexuality, transgender identity, age and responsibilities as a carer.
- (b) It follows that in fulfilling their obligations under the dispute resolution procedure prescribed by this Award the parties have obligations to take all reasonable steps to ensure that the operation of the provisions of this Award are not directly or indirectly discriminatory in their effects. It will be consistent with the fulfilment of these obligations for the parties to make application to vary any provision of the Award which, by its terms or operation, has a direct or indirect discriminatory effect.
- (c) Under the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977, it is unlawful to victimise an employee because the employee has made or may make or has been involved in a complaint of unlawful discrimination or harassment.
- (d) Nothing in this clause is to be taken to affect:
 - (i) Any conduct or act which is specifically exempted from anti-discrimination legislation;
 - (ii) Offering or providing junior rates of pay to persons under 21 years of age;
 - (iii) Any act or practice of a body established to propagate religion which is exempted under section 56(d) of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977;
 - (iv) A party to this Award from pursuing matters of unlawful discrimination in any State or Federal jurisdiction.
- (e) This clause does not create legal rights or obligations in addition to those imposed upon the parties by the legislation referred to in this clause.

NOTES –

- (i) Employers and employees may also be subject to Commonwealth anti-discrimination legislation.

- (ii) Section 56(d) of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977 provides:

“Nothing in this Act affects ... any other act or practice of a body established to propagate religion that conforms to the doctrines of that religion or is necessary to avoid injury to the religious susceptibilities of the adherents of that religion.”

35. Benefits Not to Be Withdrawn

Except in so far as altered expressly or by necessary implication, nothing in his Award shall in itself, be deemed or be construed to reduce the wages of any employee at the date of the commencement of this Award.

36. Leave Reserved & No Extra Claims

This new Award recognises all work value and special case claims up to its commencement date, excepting for the following matters where leave is reserved to the parties to make application in respect of:

- (a) Additional Annual Leave as awarded in the Operational Ambulance Officers (State) Award in 2001; and
- (b) The Award arrangements for Operations Centres, including a new Award, classification structures, rates of pay and conditions of employment.

No additional claims can be pursued to the Award during the life of the 2008 Memorandum of Understanding between the Department and the Union, which ceases on 30 June 2009, excepting those consistent with Clauses 5 and 6 of that Memorandum. Following the expiry of the Memorandum on 30 June 2009, the parties are accordingly entitled to pursue variations to salaries, salary related allowances and conditions of employment for 1 July 2009 onwards, which may include instituting proceedings before the Commission if the parties are unable to achieve agreement.

37. Area, Incidence and Duration

- (a) This Award rescinds and replaces the Ambulance Service of New South Wales Superintendent/Operational Managers (State) Award published 28 March 2002 (332 IG 404) and all variations thereof.
- (b) This Award shall apply to persons employed in classifications contained herein employed by the Ambulance Service of New South Wales.
- (c) This Award takes effect from the date of being awarded by the Industrial Relations Commission of New South Wales and shall remain in force for a period of three years.

Section 7. Monetary Rates

Table 1A - Salaries
Prior to 13 September 2008

Operational Managers						
Classification	1 July 2007 (4%)		25 September 2007 (Interim 4%)		1 July 2008 (2.5%)	
	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max
Operational Manager						
Level 1	68,513	71,775	71,254	74,646	73,035	76,512
Level 2	70,142	83,194	72,948	86,522	74,771	88,685
Level 3	81,562	92,981	84,824	96,700	86,945	99,118
Level 4	91,348	109,294	95,002	113,666	97,377	116,507
Level 5	107,662	120,714	111,968	125,543	114,768	128,681
Operations Centre Manager						
Level 1	73,994	77,517	73,994	77,517	75,844	79,455
Level 2	75,753	89,850	75,753	89,850	77,647	92,096
Level 3	88,087	100,419	91,327	100,419	93,610	102,930
Level 4	98,656	118,038	98,656	118,038	101,122	120,988
Level 5	116,275	130,371	116,275	130,371	119,182	133,630

Table 1B - Salaries
After 13 September 2008

Operational Managers				
13 September 2008 (Work Value & Special Case)				
Classification	<i>(Without 2.5% MOU)</i>		<i>(Including 2.5% MOU)</i>	
	<i>Min</i>	<i>Max</i>	<i>Min</i>	<i>Max</i>
Operational Manager				
Level 1	78,982	82,742	80,956	84,811
Level 2	80,860	95,906	82,881	98,304
Level 3	94,025	107,188	96,375	109,868
Level 4	105,306	125,994	107,939	129,144
Level 5	124,113	139,159	127,216	142,638
Operations Centre Manager				
Level 1	76,954	80,618	78,878	82,633
Level 2	78,783	93,444	80,753	95,780
Level 3	91,610	104,436	93,901	107,047
Level 4	102,602	122,759	105,167	125,828
Level 5	120,926	135,586	123,949	138,976

Table 2 Allowances

Clause	Brief Description	Rate from 1.7.2006 \$	Rate from 1.7.2007 \$	Rate from 13.9.2008 \$
	Climatic and Isolation Allowance (a)*	4.30	4.30	4.30
	Climatic and Isolation Allowance (b)*	8.70	8.70	8.70
	Laundry Allowance per week**			12.50

* This is not subject to Award increases as it is determined through the Premier's Department.

** This is not subject to general award increases.