



DECISION

Fair Work Act 2009

s.185 - Application for approval of a single-enterprise agreement

Office of Parliamentary Counsel

(AG2011/10565)

OFFICE OF PARLIAMENTARY COUNSEL ENTERPRISE AGREEMENT 2011-2014

Commonwealth employment

COMMISSIONER DEEGAN

CANBERRA, 8 JULY 2011

*Application for approval of the Office of Parliamentary Counsel Enterprise Agreement
2011-2014.*

[1] An application has been made for approval of an enterprise agreement known as the Office of Parliamentary Counsel Enterprise Agreement 2011-2014 (Agreement). The application was made pursuant to s.185 of the *Fair Work Act 2009* (Act). The Agreement is a single-enterprise agreement.

[2] I am satisfied that each of the requirements of ss.186, 187 and 188 of the Act as are relevant to this application for approval have been met.

[3] The CPSU, the Community and Public Sector Union, being a bargaining representative for the Agreement, has given notice under s.183 of the Act that it wants the Agreement to cover it. In accordance with s.201(2) of the Act, I note that the Agreement covers the organisation.

[4] A number of conditional terminations of individual agreement-based transitional instruments (individual agreements) were lodged with the application for approval of the Agreement. In accordance with Schedule 3, clause 18 of the *Fair Work (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 2009* those individual agreements will terminate upon commencement of the Agreement.

[5] The Agreement is approved and, in accordance with s.54 of the Act, will operate from 15 July 2011. The nominal expiry date of the Agreement is 30 June 2014.



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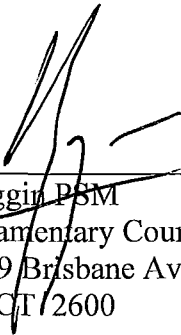
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Office of Parliamentary Counsel Enterprise Agreement 2011-2014

1 **Office of Parliamentary Counsel Enterprise Agreement**
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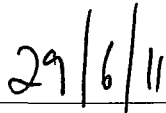
6 **Acceptance of Agreement**

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8 This Agreement is made under section 172 of the *Fair Work Act 2009*. By signing below, the
9 parties to this Agreement signify their agreement to its terms.
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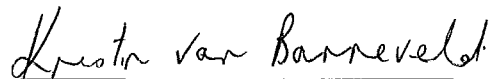
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17 _____
18 Peter Quiggin PSM
19 First Parliamentary Counsel
20 Level 2, 39 Brisbane Avenue
21 Barton ACT 2600

22 Employer

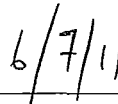
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26 _____
27 Date

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17 _____
18 For and on behalf of the
19 Community and Public Sector Union
20 1st Floor, 40 Brisbane Avenue
21 Barton ACT 2600

22 Bargaining Representative Signature

23
24
25 

26 _____
27 Date

1	Contents		
2	Office of Parliamentary Counsel Enterprise Agreement		i
3	2011-2014		i
4	Part 1—Objective		1
5	1	Objective	1
6	Part 2—Preliminary matters		1
7	1A	Title	1
8	2	Parties to the Agreement	1
9	3	Period of operation	1
10	4	Variation of the Agreement	1
11	5	Comprehensive agreement	1
12	5A	Closed agreement	1
13	5B	Implementation payment	2
14	6	Other policies and procedures	2
15	7	Termination of employment	2
16	8	Delegations	2
17	Part 3—Working together		2
18	Division 1—Structures and processes		2
19	9	Workplace Consultative Committee	2
20	9A	Principles for workplace delegates	3
21	10	General Consultation	3
22	10A	Consultation on Major Change	4
23	11	Grievance officer	5
24	11A	Resolution of Agreement disputes	5
25	12	Prevention and settlement of disputes—mutual responsibilities	5
26	13	Internal dispute resolution procedures	5
27	14	Resolution of disputes—referral to Fair Work Australia	6
28	Division 2—Roles and responsibilities		6
29	15	Leadership, management and teamworking	6
30	16	Corporate Service Charter	6
31	Division 3—Other matters		6
32	17	Managing unsatisfactory performance	6
33	18	Fitness for continued duty	7
34	19	Probation	7
35	20	Protection for whistleblowers	7
36	21	Employee assistance program	7
37	Part 4—Terms and conditions		7
38	Division 1—Task broadening		7
39	22	Task broadening	7
40	Division 2—Working hours		8
41	23	Hours of work	8
42	24	Flex-time and flexible working hours	8
43	24A	Requests for flexible working arrangements	8
44	Division 3—Other entitlements		9
45	25	Allowances	9
46	26	Travel	10
47	27	Accommodation	10
48	28	Relocation	10

1	Division 4—Part-time work	10
2	29 Overview	10
3	30 Part-time hours	10
4	31 Salary and other benefits	11
5	32 Permission to work part-time hours	11
6	33 Resumption of full-time work	11
7	34 Application of part-time work provisions to existing part-time employees	11
8	35 Part-time work arrangements don't prevent abolition of positions	11
9	Division 5—Other matters	11
10	36 Staff development	11
11	37 Unauthorised absences	11
12	Part 5—Classifications/local designations and remuneration	12
13	Division 1—Salaries: general	12
14	38 Salary increases	12
15	39 Salary levels	12
16	40 Individual Flexibility Arrangements	12
17	41 [not required]	13
18	42 [not required]	13
19	43 [not required]	13
20	44 Broadband structure—non-drafting positions	13
21	Division 2—Overtime	13
22	45 Overtime payments	13
23	Division 3—Initial salaries and salary advancement	15
24	46 Initial salary—staff other than APC 1s	15
25	47 Initial salary—APC 1s	15
26	48 Salary advancement within classifications	16
27	49 Salary advancement between classifications within a broadband—employees other than drafters	16
28		
29	50 Salary on promotion within OPC	17
30	Division 4—Other matters	17
31	51 Temporary performance at a lower level	17
32	52 Salary packaging	17
33	53 Superannuation	17
34	54 Notice of resignation or retirement from the APS	17
35	55 Payment on death	17
36	Part 6—Leave	18
37	Division 1—Annual leave and purchased leave	18
38	56 Overview of annual leave and purchased leave arrangements	18
39	57 Accrual of annual leave credit	18
40	58 Taking annual leave	18
41	59 Annual leave credits—portability of leave	18
42	60 Employee directed to take annual leave	19
43	61 Annual leave to be paid out when employment ceases	19
44	62 Employees may take annual leave at half pay	19
45	63 Restrictions on taking annual leave at half pay	19
46	63A Cashing out annual leave	19
47	64 Employees may purchase leave	19
48	Division 2—Personal/carer's leave	20
49	Subdivision A—Overview	20
50	65 What this Division is about	20
51	Subdivision B—Personal/carer's leave credits	20
52	66 Accrual of personal/carer's leave credit	20

1	67	Personal/carer's leave credits—portability of leave	20
2	68	Previous employment may be allowed to count as service	21
3	Subdivision C—Use of personal/carer's leave		21
4	69	Personal/carer's leave with pay	21
5	70	Personal/carer's leave on half pay	21
6	71	Anticipation of personal/carer's leave credit	22
7	72	Personal/carer's leave without pay	22
8	73	When does personal/carer's leave count as service?	22
9	Subdivision D—Provisions applicable only to illness of employee		22
10	74	FPC may direct leave of absence	22
11	75	Personal/carers leave not available while on maternity leave	22
12	76	Employee sick on public holiday	22
13	77	Invalidity	22
14	78	[not required]	23
15	Subdivision E—Unpaid carer's leave		23
16	79	Unpaid carer's leave to care for family member etc.	23
17	Division 3—Leave for particular purposes		23
18	80	Parental leave	23
19	81	Adoption leave	24
20	81A	Foster carer's leave	24
21	82	Long service leave	24
22	83	Maternity leave	24
23	84	Other leave for particular purposes	24
24	84A	Defence Reserve leave	24
25	84B	Community service leave	25
26	Division 4—Other leave		25
27	85	Leave with pay	25
28	86	Leave without pay	26
29	87	Leave under this Division	26
30	Division 5—Miscellaneous		26
31	88	Expenses—cancellation of leave or recall to duty	26
32	89	Public holidays	27
33	90	Christmas shutdown	27
34	Part 7—Operations		27
35	91	Performance management	27
36	92	Temporary performance allowance	28
37	Part 8—Redeployment, retirement and redundancy		28
38	93	Application	28
39	94	Excess employees	28
40	95	FPC's obligations	28
41	96	Consultation process	28
42	97	Voluntary redundancy	29
43	98	Period of notice	29
44	99	Severance benefit	30
45	100	Rate of payment—severance benefit	31
46	101	Retention and redeployment	31
47	102	Termination	32
48	103	Accelerated separation arrangements for redundancy purposes	32
49	104	[not required]	32
50	105	Termination of employment—review mechanism	32
51	Part 9—Transitional arrangements		32
52	106	Preservation of annual leave credits	32
53	107	Preservation of personal/carer's leave credits	33

1	Part 10—Definitions	34
2	108 Definitions	34
3	Attachment A—Salaries	36
4	1 Salaries	36
5	2 Junior Rates of Pay	37
6	3 Workers eligible for a supported wage	37
7		

Part 1—Objective

1 Objective

OPC drafts Bills for consideration by the Parliament of Australia. As such, OPC plays a key role in supporting Australian democracy.

The purpose of this Agreement is to ensure that OPC continues to play this key role in supporting Australian democracy. This will be achieved by maintaining and improving OPC's high standards of service delivery.

Part 2—Preliminary matters

1A Title

This Agreement is the Office of Parliamentary Counsel Enterprise Agreement 2011-2014.

2 Parties to the Agreement

(1) This Agreement covers all employees other than Senior Executive Service employees employed by the Office of Parliamentary Counsel under the provisions of the *Public Service Act 1999*, but it does not cover any employee who is party to an Australian Workplace Agreement with the Office of Parliamentary Counsel.

(2) This Agreement is made under section 172 of the *Fair Work Act 2009* and covers:

- (a) First Parliamentary Counsel;
- (b) all employees other than Senior Executive Service employees; and
- (c) the Community and Public Sector Union (if Fair Work Australia has noted in its decision to approve the Agreement that the Community and Public Sector Union is covered).

3 Period of operation

This Agreement will commence operation seven days after it is approved by Fair Work Australia. The nominal expiry date is 30 June 2014.

4 Variation of the Agreement

This Agreement may only be varied in accordance with the *Fair Work Act 2009*.

5 Comprehensive agreement

- (1) This Agreement is a comprehensive agreement.
- (2) It is acknowledged that employment by OPC is subject to the provisions of any applicable Commonwealth law.

5A Closed agreement

This Agreement constitutes a closed agreement in settlement of all matters for its duration. The parties agree that for the life of the Agreement, there will be no further claims, except where consistent with the terms of this Agreement.

1 **5B Implementation payment**

2 Upon commencement of this Agreement, employees who were entitled to vote on this
3 Agreement will be entitled to a payment of \$1,900. An employee who was on leave when the
4 Agreement commences is not entitled to the payment unless and until he or she resumes duty
5 in OPC.

6 **6 Other policies and procedures**

7 This Agreement is supported by OPC policies and procedures to provide more detailed
8 guidance to managers and employees. Most of this material is set out in Office Procedural
9 Circulars and is identified in the relevant clause. Any Office Procedural Circular referred to
10 in this Agreement may be reviewed or amended from time to time by FPC after consultation
11 with the Workplace Consultative Committee. Office Procedural Circulars are not
12 incorporated into, and do not form part of, this Agreement. Where any provisions of this
13 Agreement are inconsistent with OPC policies and procedures, as varied from time to time,
14 then the terms of this Agreement will prevail.

15 **7 Termination of employment**

- 16 (1) The sole and exhaustive rights and remedies of an employee in relation to termination of
17 employment are those that the employee has:
- 18 (a) under Division 11 of Part 2-2 of Chapter 2 of the *Fair Work Act 2009*; and
 - 19 (b) under Part 3-2 of Chapter 3 of the *Fair Work Act 2009*; and
 - 20 (c) under Division 2 of Part 3-6 of Chapter 3 of the *Fair Work Act 2009*; and
 - 21 (d) under other Commonwealth laws (including the Constitution); and
 - 22 (e) at common law.
- 23 (2) Termination of employment, or a decision to terminate employment, cannot be reviewed
24 under the procedures set out in clauses 12 to 14 of this Agreement.
- 25 (3) Nothing in this Agreement prevents FPC from terminating the employment of an employee
26 for serious misconduct, without further notice or payment in lieu, in accordance with
27 section 123 of the *Fair Work Act 2009*. However, FPC must comply with the procedures
28 established by FPC under section 15 of the *Public Service Act 1999* for determining whether
29 an employee has breached the Code of Conduct.

30 **8 Delegations**

31 FPC may, in writing, delegate any of his or her powers under this Agreement to another
32 person, or authorise another person to exercise any of those powers. However, FPC may not
33 delegate, or authorise the exercise of, the power under this clause.

34 **Part 3—Working together**

35 **Division 1—Structures and processes**

36 **9 Workplace Consultative Committee**

37 The WCC will continue in operation with the existing membership and processes. More
38 information about the WCC is contained in an Office Procedural Circular.

9A Principles for workplace delegates

- (1) The role of union workplace delegates and other elected union representatives is to be respected and facilitated.
- (2) OPC and union workplace delegates will deal with each other in good faith.
- (3) In discharging their representative roles at the workplace level, the rights of union workplace delegates and recognised representatives include but are not limited to:
 - (a) the right to be treated fairly and to perform their role as workplace delegates without any discrimination in their employment;
 - (b) recognition by OPC that workplace delegates speak on behalf of their members in the workplace;
 - (c) the right to participate in collective bargaining on behalf of those who they represent, as per the *Fair Work Act 2009*;
 - (d) the right to reasonable paid time to provide information to and seek feedback from employees in the workplace on workplace relations matters at OPC during normal working hours;
 - (e) the right to email employees in their workplace to provide information and seek feedback, subject to individual employees exercising a right to 'opt out';
 - (f) reasonable access to OPC's facilities for the purpose of carrying out work as a delegate and consulting with members and other interested employees and the union, subject to OPC's policies and protocols;
 - (g) the right to address new employees about union membership at the time they enter employment;
 - (h) the right to consultation, and access to relevant information about the workplace and OPC; and
 - (i) the right to reasonable paid time to represent the interests of members to the employer and industrial tribunals.
- (4) In discharging any roles that may involve undertaking union business, the rights of union workplace delegates include but are not limited to:
 - (a) reasonable paid time during normal working hours to consult with other delegates and union officials in the workplace, and receive advice and assistance from union staff and officials in the workplace;
 - (b) reasonable access to appropriate training in workplace relations matters including training provided by a union; and
 - (c) reasonable paid time off to represent union members in OPC at relevant union forums.
- (5) OPC will seek to facilitate official union communication with employees by means that may include:
 - (a) the use of email as a means of communicating with employees and other means of information sharing, including written materials, notice boards and access to websites; and
 - (b) group or individual meetings between employees and their representatives.
- (6) In exercising their rights, workplace delegates and unions will consider operational issues, OPC's policies and guidelines and the likely effect on the efficient operation of, or service provision by, OPC.

10 General Consultation

- (1) In making decisions which affect employees, whether in relation to matters covered by this Agreement or in relation to broader matters, OPC is committed to consultation with affected employees.

- 1 (2) An Office Procedural Circular sets out the consultation and participative work practices in
2 OPC. The WCC will monitor consultation and participative work practices in OPC and make
3 recommendations to FPC on the need for any changes.
- 4 (3) In this Agreement, *consultation* means:
- 5 (a) providing, wherever possible, relevant information to employees and their
6 representatives about proposed changes or decisions or other issues that will impact on
7 them so that they are able to participate meaningfully in debate; and
8 (b) in making decisions—taking account of the views expressed by employees and their
9 representatives; and
10 (c) explaining decisions that have been made, including how the views expressed by
11 employees and their representatives were taken into account.

12 10A Consultation on Major Change

- 13 (1) This clause applies if:
- 14 (a) OPC has made a definite decision to introduce a major change to its program,
15 organisation, structure or technology; and
16 (b) the change is likely to have a significant effect on employees of OPC.
- 17 (2) FPC must notify the relevant employees of the decision to introduce the major change.
- 18 (3) The relevant employees may appoint a representative for the purposes of the procedures in
19 this clause.
- 20 (4) As soon as practicable after the decision is made, FPC must:
- 21 (a) discuss with the relevant employees and their representatives:
- 22 (i) the introduction of the change; and
23 (ii) the effect the change is likely to have on the employees; and
24 (iii) measures OPC is taking to avert or mitigate the adverse effect of the change on
25 the employees; and
26 (b) for the purposes of the discussion—provide, in writing, to the relevant employees and
27 their representatives:
- 28 (i) all relevant information about the change including the nature of the change
29 proposed; and
30 (ii) information about the expected effects of the change on the employees; and
31 (iii) any other matters likely to affect the employees.
- 32 (5) However, FPC is not required to disclose confidential or commercially sensitive information
33 to the relevant employees or their representatives.
- 34 (6) FPC must give prompt and genuine consideration to matters raised about the major change
35 by the relevant employees and their representatives.
- 36 (7) Where provision is already made elsewhere in this Agreement for a major change to
37 program, organisation, structure or technology of OPC, the requirements set out in
38 subclauses (2), (3) and (4) are taken not to apply.
- 39 (8) In this clause, a major change is *likely to have a significant effect on employees* if it results
40 in:
- 41 (a) the termination of the employment of employees; or
42 (b) major change to the composition, operation or size of OPC's workforce or to the skills
43 required by employees; or
44 (c) the elimination or diminution of job opportunities (including opportunities for
45 promotion or tenure); or
-

-
- 1 (d) the alteration of hours of work; or
2 (e) the need to retrain employees; or
3 (f) the need to relocate employees to another workplace; or
4 (g) the major restructuring of jobs.

5 (9) In this clause, *relevant employees* means the employees who may be affected by the major
6 change.

7 **11 Grievance officer**

8 Employees are to annually elect an employee to be grievance officer for OPC. The functions
9 of the grievance officer are to receive individual grievances from staff members and to take
10 the grievances up with the appropriate body or person with a view to settling them.

11 **11A Resolution of Agreement disputes**

12 Clauses 12 to 14 set out procedures to settle disputes that relate to a matter arising under:

- 13 (a) this Agreement; or
14 (b) the National Employment Standards.

15 **12 Prevention and settlement of disputes—mutual responsibilities**

- 16 (1) All members of OPC recognise that they have a mutual responsibility to work co-operatively
17 to resolve disputes.
- 18 (2) If a dispute arises, the parties to the dispute will ensure that work will continue in accordance
19 with established custom and practice while the dispute resolution procedures are applied. If
20 the dispute involves a genuine occupational health and safety issue, employees will not be
21 expected to work in an unsafe environment, but will undertake suitable alternative work until
22 the occupational health and safety issue is resolved.
- 23 (3) All members of OPC agree to take genuine and reasonable internal steps to prevent or settle
24 disputes. The steps taken must be timely and appropriate to the settlement of the matters in
25 dispute.

26 **13 Internal dispute resolution procedures**

- 27 (1) There are various different internal procedures available for resolving disputes, depending on
28 the nature of the dispute and the people involved in it. These include the following:
- 29 (a) discussion of the dispute between the employees affected and their immediate
30 supervisor (if the dispute relates to the behaviour or actions of the immediate
31 supervisor, the employees may discuss the matter with FPC or with either of the 2PCs);
32 (b) the dispute being raised with, and taken up by, the grievance officer;
33 (c) counselling or mediation provided through the employee assistance program referred to
34 in clause 21.
- 35 (2) If the matter is not resolved through the procedures mentioned in subclause (1), a party to the
36 dispute may arrange for it to be discussed with FPC. FPC may suggest any procedure or
37 assistance to resolve the matter, including recommending the appointment of an independent
38 mediator.
- 39 (3) For any discussions under this clause, employees may choose to be accompanied by a person
40 of their choice (who need not be an employee of OPC), who may participate in the
41 discussions.

14 Resolution of disputes—referral to Fair Work Australia

- (1) If a dispute is unable to be resolved at the workplace, and all agreed steps at clauses 12 and 13 have been taken, a party to the dispute may refer the matter to Fair Work Australia.
- (2) Fair Work Australia may deal with the dispute in 2 stages:
- (a) Fair Work Australia will first attempt to resolve the dispute as it considers appropriate, including by mediation, conciliation, expressing an opinion or making a recommendation; and
 - (b) if Fair Work Australia is unable to resolve the dispute at the first stage, Fair Work Australia may then:
 - (i) arbitrate the dispute; and
 - (ii) make a determination that is binding on the parties.
- Note: If Fair Work Australia arbitrates the dispute, it may also use the powers that are available to it under the *Fair Work Act 2009*. A decision that Fair Work Australia makes when arbitrating a dispute is a decision for the purpose of Division 3 of Part 5-1 of the *Fair Work Act 2009*. Therefore, an appeal may be made against the decision.
- (3) The parties to the dispute agree to be bound by a decision made by Fair Work Australia in accordance with this clause.

Division 2—Roles and responsibilities

15 Leadership, management and teamworking

The parties to this Agreement recognise that, in general, OPC's work is best performed by people who are able to see themselves as members of a team with a common aim. An Office Procedural Circular sets out details of this, including the roles and responsibilities of management and employees in relation to this.

16 Corporate Service Charter

The Corporate Service Charter outlines:

- (a) the service commitments of the Corporate Services work group to the management and staff of OPC; and
- (b) staff responsibilities to the Corporate Services work group to enable the service commitments to be met.

Division 3—Other matters

17 Managing unsatisfactory performance

- (1) If FPC considers that an employee's work performance is unsatisfactory, the employee's supervisor will, as soon as practicable:
- (a) advise the employee in writing that the employee's work performance is considered to be unsatisfactory; and
 - (b) provide the employee with details of the required standards for the duties the employee has been assigned and how the employee has failed to meet those standards.
- The employee will have 7 days to comment.
- (2) If, having regard to the comments (if any) provided by the employee, the employee's supervisor considers it necessary, remedial action will be instituted. Details of such action and the processes are set out in an Office Procedural Circular.

(3) There will be an initial period of assessment, usually of 3 months, that will be undertaken by the employee’s supervisor. Where performance issues have not been satisfactorily resolved a further period of assessment, usually of 3 months, will take place. This further assessment will be undertaken by a person who is not the employee’s supervisor.

(4) [not required]

18 Fitness for continued duty

If an employee’s fitness for continued duty is affected by physical or mental incapacity, the matter will be handled under an Office Procedural Circular.

19 Probation

Arrangements for probation for employees joining OPC from outside the APS are set out in an Office Procedural Circular. The Office Procedural Circular must cover the following topics:

- (a) who is engaged on probation;
- (b) the length of probation;
- (c) the basis of assessment during probation;
- (d) the appraisal system;
- (e) special provisions for employees on leave or attending Legal Workshop etc.;
- (f) what is to be done if employees are rated as “unsatisfactory”;
- (g) special provisions for graduated return to work or exceptional circumstances.

20 Protection for whistleblowers

(1) An employee of OPC should report to FPC or to a 2PC any breach or alleged breach of the APS Code of Conduct, which the employee believes should appropriately be dealt with under OPC’s whistleblowing arrangements. Details of OPC’s whistleblowing arrangements are set out in an Office Procedural Circular.

(2) FPC and the 2PCs are committed to ensuring that protection is provided against victimisation or discrimination for any employee of OPC reporting a breach or alleged breach of the APS Code of Conduct.

21 Employee assistance program

OPC will provide access to counselling and related services on the basis set out in an Office Procedural Circular.

Part 4—Terms and conditions

Division 1—Task broadening

22 Task broadening

FPC may direct an employee to perform any duties that are within the limits of the employee’s skill, competence and training and could be performed by that employee consistently with the classification and local designation structure, with the work level standards determined by FPC and with FPC’s responsibility to protect the health and safety at work of employees in OPC.

Division 2—Working hours

23 Hours of work

- (1) The standard hours of work are 8.30 am until 12.30 pm and 1.30 pm until 5.00 pm Monday to Friday. This is 7 hours and 30 minutes per day or 37 hours and 30 minutes per week.
- (2) For the purposes of section 62 of the *Fair Work Act 2009* (maximum weekly hours), the parties to this Agreement agree that standard hours will be averaged over successive 6 month periods beginning on 1 January and 1 July. A supervisor may request or require an employee to work reasonable additional hours (within the meaning of section 62 of the *Fair Work Act 2009*).
- (3) The span of hours during which employees may work normal hours (normal bandwidth) is 7.00 am to 7.00 pm Monday to Friday. However, an employee on flex-time may only work normal hours in the periods from 7.00 am to 8.00 am and 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm with the express prior approval of his or her supervisor.
- (4) Employees must take a meal break of at least 30 minutes after working continuously for a 5 hour period. Employees on flex-time cannot work more than 10 hours of normal hours in a day.

24 Flex-time and flexible working hours

- (1) Employees (including part-time employees) performing duties in positions at APS Levels 1-6 are entitled to flex-time.
- (2) Executive Level employees and drafters (including part-time employees) may work flexible hours.
- (3) Supervisors may, if they think it appropriate, approve absences (including whole days) in recognition of substantial additional time worked by Executive Level employees and drafters who are working flexible working hours. Such approved absences need not be covered by any formal grant of leave.
- (4) The flex-time system will provide for a 4 week settlement period. An employee may carry over a flex-time credit of up to 25 hours, or a debit of no more than 10 hours, between settlement periods. An employee may, with approval, take up to 5 days off as flex-time in any single settlement period.
- (5) Office Procedural Circulars provide details on the flex-time system and the flexible working hours arrangements. The Office Procedural Circular also provides details on corporate hours for drafters, which are 9.30 am to 4.00 pm, Mondays to Thursdays.

24A Requests for flexible working arrangements

- (1) An employee who is a parent, or has responsibility for the care, of a child under school age or a child under 18 who has a disability, may request flexible working arrangements, including part-time hours, to assist the employee to care for the child. The employee is not eligible to make this request unless they have completed at least 12 months of continuous service with OPC.
- (2) A request made in accordance with subclause (1) must be in writing and set out details of the change sought and the reasons for the change.

- (3) FPC will respond in writing to the request within 21 days and will only refuse on reasonable business grounds. Where the request is refused, the response will include reasons for the refusal.

Division 3—Other entitlements

25 Allowances

Employees are entitled to the allowances as set out in the following table in the circumstances set out in an Office Procedural Circular. The table sets out basic entitlement conditions and minimum amounts for some of those allowances.

Item	Allowance	Basic entitlement conditions	Minimum amount	Notes
1	Temporary performance allowance			see clause 92
2	First aid certificate allowance	(a) possession of current first aid certificate recognised under an OPC; and (b) appointment by FPC as a First Aid Officer	\$15 per week	
3	Community language allowance			entitlement and rate fixed by an OPC
4	Allowance for office disabilities			entitlement and rate fixed by an OPC
5	Motor vehicle allowance	(a) authorisation by FPC to use a private motor vehicle for official purposes; and (b) FPC is satisfied that such use will result in greater efficiency or less expense to OPC	Rates published by the ATO	
6	Overtime meal allowance	(a) requirement to work overtime; and (b) entitled to payment for the overtime including where the overtime is converted into a flex credit	\$30	This allowance is in addition to any overtime allowance payable under clause 45
7	Loss or damage to clothing or personal effects allowance	loss occurs in the course of employment		reimbursement basis
8	Prescription eyewear allowance	(a) prescription of eyewear by an optometrist or ophthalmologist; and (b) need to wear prescribed eyewear in performance of any work	\$500 every two years	
9	Dependant care cost allowance	(a) requirement to work outside ACT, or outside normal patterns of work; and (b) additional family care	reimbursement of reasonable expenses as	

Item	Allowance	Basic entitlement conditions	Minimum amount	Notes
		arrangements necessary as a result; and (c) costs minimised by employee; and (d) FPC given reasonable advance notice	determined by FPC	
10	Semi-official telephone allowance	(a) occupant of position determined by FPC; and (b) availability of private telephone for OPC use	\$35 per fortnight	

26 Travel

The entitlements of employees travelling on official business are set out in an Office Procedural Circular. FPC is to determine appropriate allowances having regard to the amount or rate of the allowance, or an equivalent allowance, that is payable to employees within the Attorney-General’s Department or comparable agencies.

27 Accommodation

All drafters are entitled to individual offices.

28 Relocation

Employees who relocate permanently on engagement, movement or promotion to OPC will receive assistance agreed with FPC.

Division 4—Part-time work

29 Overview

Part-time work can provide advantages for OPC and for employees.

- For OPC, part-time work may provide an opportunity to employ people with special skills for whom OPC could not provide a full-time workload, or to retain trained employees.
- For employees, part-time work may provide an opportunity to strike a balance between work and their other commitments or interests.

There will be no arbitrary restrictions on the number of employees who may be granted permission to work part-time hours.

30 Part-time hours

- (1) An employee is working part-time if their average weekly normal hours are less than 37.5 hours. These hours are to be worked during the normal bandwidth.

Example: A part-time employee may work a 9 day fortnight.

- (2) The number of hours worked and the work patterns of an employee granted permission to work part-time hours are to be as agreed between the employee and FPC from time to time.

31 Salary and other benefits

Salary and other benefits (except reimbursement benefits) for part-time employees will be calculated on a pro-rata basis. Reimbursement benefits will be paid on the same basis as for full-time employees.

32 Permission to work part-time hours

- (1) FPC may grant an employee permission to work part-time hours either indefinitely or for a specified period.
- (2) FPC must grant this permission to an employee returning to duty after maternity, parental, adoption or foster carer's leave who requests permission from FPC to work part-time hours for up to 12 months after returning to duty. Subject to operational requirements, FPC will not unreasonably refuse permission to other employees to work part-time hours.

33 Resumption of full-time work

- (1) An employee who is granted permission to work part-time hours indefinitely cannot be required to, and is not entitled to, resume, or commence, working full-time hours except by agreement between the employee and FPC.
- (2) An employee who is granted permission to work part-time hours for a specified period cannot be required to, and is not entitled to, resume working full-time hours before the end of the period except by agreement between the employee and FPC. At the end of the period, the employee is entitled to resume working full-time hours or to request permission to continue to work part-time hours.

34 Application of part-time work provisions to existing part-time employees

Part-time arrangements that are in place at the commencement of this Agreement continue. The number of hours worked, and the work patterns, may be subsequently varied under subclause 30(2).

35 Part-time work arrangements don't prevent abolition of positions

Nothing in this Division affects FPC's powers to declare an employee excess in accordance with Part 8 or limits any other dealing with a position in accordance with any applicable legislation.

Division 5—Other matters**36 Staff development**

Development opportunities, including the payment of financial assistance to approved students where appropriate, will be made available to employees. Details of OPC's Staff Development Program are set out in an Office Procedural Circular.

37 Unauthorised absences

- (1) If an employee is absent from duty without approval, all pay and other benefits provided under this Agreement may, at FPC's discretion, cease to be available until the employee resumes duty or is granted leave. Until then, standard hours of work as defined in clause 23 will apply in the case of a full-time employee and the part-time hours of work agreed with FPC will apply in the case of a part-time employee.

- 1 (2) Unauthorised absences may constitute non-performance of duties and result in termination of
2 employment. The procedures for dealing with non-performance of duties are set out in an
3 Office Procedural Circular.

4 **Part 5—Classifications/local designations and remuneration**

5 **Division 1—Salaries: general**

6 **38 Salary increases**

7 In recognition of the productivity improvements and savings in OPC, the following increases
8 are payable under this Agreement:

- 9 (a) 4.4% increase in salary, payable from the commencement of this Agreement;
10 (b) 3% increase in salary, payable from 1 July 2012; and
11 (c) 2% increase in salary, payable from 1 July 2013.

12 Each increase is to be calculated based on the salary immediately before the increase.

13 **39 Salary levels**

- 14 (1) The tables in Attachment A set out the salaries that are payable to employees under this
15 Agreement.
- 16 (2) The salary and pay point for the employee at the commencement of this Agreement is the
17 same as the salary for the employee immediately before the commencement of this
18 Agreement.

19 **40 Individual Flexibility Arrangements**

- 20 (1) FPC and an employee may agree to make an individual flexibility arrangement to vary the
21 effect of terms of this Agreement if:
- 22 (a) the arrangement deals with one or more of the following matters:
- 23 (i) arrangements about when work is performed;
24 (ii) overtime rates;
25 (iii) penalty rates;
26 (iv) allowances;
27 (v) remuneration;
28 (vi) leave;
29 (vii) retention payments; and
- 30 (b) the arrangement meets the genuine needs of OPC and the employee in relation to one
31 or more of the matters mentioned in paragraph (a); and
- 32 (c) the arrangement is genuinely agreed to by FPC and the employee.
- 33 (2) FPC must ensure that the terms of the individual flexibility arrangement:
- 34 (a) are about permitted matters under section 172 of the *Fair Work Act 2009*; and
35 (b) are not unlawful terms under section 194 of the *Fair Work Act 2009*; and
36 (c) result in the employee being better off overall than the employee would be if no
37 arrangement was made.
- 38 (3) FPC must ensure that the individual flexibility arrangement:
- 39 (a) is in writing; and
40 (b) includes the name of the employer and employee; and
41 (c) is signed by FPC and the employee and, if the employee is under 18 years of age,
42 signed by a parent or guardian of the employee; and
-

1 (d) includes details of:

2 (i) the terms of the Agreement that will be varied by the arrangement; and

3 (ii) how the arrangement will vary the effect of the terms; and

4 (iii) how the employee will be better off overall in relation to the terms and conditions
5 of his or her employment as a result of the arrangement; and

6 (e) states the day on which the arrangement commences and, where applicable, when the
7 arrangement ceases.

8 (4) FPC must give the employee a copy of the individual flexibility arrangement within 14 days
9 after it is agreed to.

10 (5) FPC or the employee may terminate the individual flexibility arrangement:

11 (a) by giving no more than 28 days written notice to the other party to the arrangement; or

12 (b) if FPC and the employee agree in writing—at any time.

13 **41 [not required]**

14 **42 [not required]**

15 **43 [not required]**

16 **44 Broadband structure—non-drafting positions**

17 (1) The non-drafting classifications are grouped into 2 broadbands plus the 2 Executive Levels
18 (which are not broadbanded). Broadband A covers APS 1, 2 and 3 and Broadband B covers
19 APS 4, 5 and 6.

20 (2) An employee can only move to a higher classification within a broadband by promotion or
21 under clause 49.

22 (3) An employee can only move to a classification in a higher broadband, or in an Executive
23 Level, by promotion.

24 **Division 2—Overtime**

25 **45 Overtime payments**

26 *General provisions*

27 (1) Overtime is payable for work performed by APS 1 to 6 level employees at the direction of
28 their supervisor:

29 (a) outside the normal bandwidth; or

30 (b) on a public holiday; or

31 (c) in excess of 10 hours in a single day.

32 (2) An employee, other than a drafter, who is above the salary barrier is entitled to overtime for
33 work outside the normal bandwidth or on a public holiday in exceptional circumstances such
34 as where the person's supervisor requires the person to do the particular work involved at
35 that time to avoid disruption to other OPC staff.

(3) Overtime duty is payable at the rates set out in the following table:

Overtime rates	
Period when overtime worked	Rate at which overtime duty is payable
Monday to Friday (outside normal bandwidth hours or in excess of 10 hours)	Time and a half for the first 3 hours worked each day and double time after that
Saturday	Time and a half for the first 3 hours worked each day and double time after that
Sunday	Double time for each hour worked
Public holidays (within standard hours of work)	Time and a half for each hour worked, in addition to the single time being paid for the public holiday
Public holidays (outside standard hours of work)	Double time and a half for each hour worked

- (4) If an employee is required to work overtime on a weekend or public holiday, he or she will be paid for a minimum period of 4 hours at the appropriate overtime rate.
- (5) If an employee works overtime, he or she will be entitled to an 8 hour break, plus reasonable travelling time, before recommencing work, without incurring any loss of pay. If this break is not possible due to operational requirements, the employee will be paid double time until he or she has such a break.
- (6) An employee who would be entitled to payment for overtime may, with the approval of his or her supervisor, convert the overtime into a flex credit at the same rate at which overtime payment would have been available (e.g. time that would be paid for at double-time rates may be converted into double flex credits). However, only actual overtime worked can be converted into flex credits; there will be no provision for deeming an employee to have worked a minimum number of overtime hours before converting the overtime to flex credits.
- (7) If an employee is called into work to meet an emergency at a time when he or she would not normally have been on duty, and the employee was given no notice of such a call before ceasing ordinary duty, he or she will be paid for the period of work at the rate of double time. The period for which this overtime will be paid will include time necessarily spent travelling to and from duty. The minimum payment for the work will be two hours at double time.
- (8) The ordinary time hourly rate for the payment of overtime is worked out on the basis that ordinary full-time salary is payable for 37.5 hours work per week.

Part-time employees

- (9) Subject to subclause (11), part-time employees who are not drafters and who are not above the salary barrier are entitled to overtime for the following duty worked at the direction of their supervisor:
- (a) all duty performed which is not continuous with the employee's ordinary hours of work; and
 - (b) all extra duty performed on any day which is continuous with the employee's ordinary hours of work, where some or all of the extra duty falls outside the normal bandwidth and where the employee also completes the normal hours of work on that day; and
 - (c) all duty performed which is continuous with the employee's ordinary hours of work and which falls wholly within the normal bandwidth but which exceeds, in any one week, that employee's approved number of part-time hours; and
 - (d) all duty in excess of 10 hours in a single day.

1 (10) Subclause (2) has effect in relation to part-time employees who are not drafters and who are
 2 not covered by subclause (9) as if references to normal bandwidth were references to the
 3 part-time employee's ordinary hours of work.

4 (11) Part-time employees are not entitled to overtime, but are entitled to be paid at their normal
 5 time hourly rate, for the duty mentioned in subclause (9) if:

6 (a) the duty is performed within the normal bandwidth; and

7 (b) before the week in which the duty is performed, the employee volunteers to perform
 8 the duty; and

9 (c) the employee agrees that this subclause will apply to the duty.

10 Note: This subclause is intended to cover situations where a part-time employee willingly agrees to work
 11 additional hours, or on additional days, for a specified period. A staff member cannot be required to
 12 perform duty under this subclause without his or her agreement.

13 **Division 3—Initial salaries and salary advancement**

14 **46 Initial salary—staff other than APC 1s**

15 (1) An employee (other than an employee who is already an APS employee or an employee
 16 engaged as an APC 1) is, on engagement, to be paid at the salary point for the classification
 17 determined by FPC.

18 (2) An employee who is already an APS employee is, on movement to OPC, to be paid at the
 19 first salary point for the classification that is higher than the employee's salary immediately
 20 before joining OPC or at such higher salary point for the classification as is determined by
 21 FPC.

22 (3) If an employee moves to a position in OPC from another APS agency and the employee's
 23 salary in the previous APS agency (*current salary*) exceeds the current maximum of the
 24 relevant classification under this Agreement then, at FPC's discretion, the employee may be
 25 maintained on the current salary until the salary that would otherwise be payable to the
 26 employee equals or exceeds the current salary.

27 **47 Initial salary—APC 1s**

28 (1) An employee (other than an employee who is already an APS employee) engaged as an APC
 29 1 is, on engagement, to be paid:

30 (a) at the first salary point in the APC 1 scale if the employee has not been admitted as a
 31 practitioner, however described, of the High Court or the Supreme Court of a State or
 32 Territory; or

33 (b) at the second salary point in the APC 1 scale if the employee has been admitted as a
 34 practitioner, however described, of the High Court or the Supreme Court of a State or
 35 Territory; or

36 (c) at such higher salary point in the APC 1 scale as is determined by FPC.

37 (2) An employee who is already an APS employee who is engaged as an APC 1 is, on
 38 engagement, to be paid:

39 (a) at the first salary point in the APC 1 scale if the employee has not been admitted as a
 40 practitioner, however described, of the High Court or the Supreme Court of a State or
 41 Territory; or

42 (b) if the employee has been admitted as a practitioner, however described, of the High
 43 Court or the Supreme Court of a State or Territory, at the first salary point in the APC
 44 1 scale that is higher than the employee's salary immediately before joining OPC; or

45 (c) at such higher salary point in the APC 1 scale as is determined by FPC.

1 Note: If an APS employee's previous salary is higher than the top salary point in the APC 1 scale, the
2 employee will be paid at the top salary point.

3 (3) If a person moves to an APC 1 position in OPC from another APS agency and the person's
4 salary in the previous APS agency (*current salary*) exceeds the current maximum of the
5 APC 1 level under this Agreement then, at FPC's discretion, the person may be maintained
6 on the current salary until the salary that would otherwise be payable to the person equals or
7 exceeds the current salary.

8 (4) An APC 1 who is being paid at the first salary point and who gains admission as a
9 practitioner, however described, of the High Court or the Supreme Court of a State or
10 Territory will advance to the second salary point in the APC 1 scale.

11 **48 Salary advancement within classifications**

12 (1) Salary advancement within classifications for employees will be linked to appraisal of the
13 employee under the applicable Performance Management Program.

14 (2) An employee who receives a rating of 3 (fully effective), and who is not on the top pay point
15 of his or her classification, will advance to the next pay point with effect from the 1 July next
16 after the end of the appraisal period.

17 (3) However, an employee is not entitled to salary at a rate exceeding that which was payable on
18 engagement, promotion or movement to the position until the employee has completed at
19 least 3 months' service at the rate payable on engagement, promotion or movement.

20 (4) An employee who receives a rating of 2 (adequate) will not be eligible for salary
21 advancement, and may be counselled about his or her performance.

22 (5) An employee who receives a rating of 1 (unsatisfactory) may be subject to action under the
23 Office Procedural Circular dealing with managing unsatisfactory performance.

24 **49 Salary advancement between classifications within a broadband—employees other than** 25 **drafters**

26 (1) An employee advances under this clause to a higher classification within a broadband if, and
27 only if:

28 (a) management determines that there is sufficient work at the higher classification and
29 determines that it cannot be performed by people currently at that level; and

30 (b) after management seeks expressions of interest from all staff who could be interested
31 in performing the work, the employee is selected to perform that work; and

32 (c) the employee was rated as fully effective at the employee's last performance appraisal.

33 (2) The selection of an employee to perform duties will be done by FPC or a panel appointed by
34 FPC.

35 (3) While FPC or the panel is to determine the process to be used to select the employee, it is
36 expected that the selection process would involve (at a maximum) a short statement of claim
37 by those seeking to be selected and short 'referee' comments from the supervisors of those
38 employees.

39 (4) An employee who is dissatisfied with a decision of a panel may seek a review of the decision
40 by FPC.

50 Salary on promotion within OPC

An employee who is promoted within OPC is to be paid at the first salary point for the classification that is higher than the employee's salary immediately before being promoted or at such higher salary point for the classification as is determined by FPC.

Division 4—Other matters**51 Temporary performance at a lower level**

If an employee requests or agrees, in writing, to temporarily perform work at a lower classification or local designation level, FPC may determine in writing that the employee will be paid a rate of salary applicable to the lower level for the period specified in the request or agreement.

52 Salary packaging

Salary packaging (that is, allowing employees to receive part of their remuneration in the form of non-cash benefits) is available to all employees. Detailed arrangements for salary packaging are set out in an Office Procedural Circular.

53 Superannuation

- (1) OPC will make compulsory employer contributions as required by the applicable legislation and fund requirements.
- (2) Where an employee has chosen an accumulation superannuation fund (including the Public Sector Superannuation Accumulation Plan (PSSap)), the employer contribution will be at the rate of 15.4% of superannuation salary. This will not be reduced by any other contributions made through salary sacrifice arrangements.
- (3) A choice made in accordance with this subclause is subject to the chosen fund being an approved fund which can accept employer contributions by electronic funds transfer and for which there are no fees and costs to be borne by OPC.
- (4) Employer superannuation contributions will not be paid on behalf of employees during periods of unpaid leave that does not count as service, unless otherwise required under Commonwealth legislation.

54 Notice of resignation or retirement from the APS

An employee who intends to resign or retire from the APS must give at least 2 weeks' notice unless the employee and FPC agree on an alternative period of notice.

55 Payment on death

If an employee dies, or FPC directs that an employee is presumed to have died on a particular date, payment may be made, to the dependants or the legal personal representative of the former employee, of an amount that would have been paid to the employee under this Agreement if the employee had otherwise ceased employment by resignation or retirement. Any money owing to the Commonwealth as a result of advanced annual leave credits will be waived.

Part 6—Leave

Division 1—Annual leave and purchased leave

56 Overview of annual leave and purchased leave arrangements

Employees have access to 2 options in relation to annual leave. The first is that employees will be able to take the leave at either full pay or half pay. The second is a purchased leave option under which additional leave may be purchased by the employees.

57 Accrual of annual leave credit

- (1) An employee is entitled to 20 days annual leave with pay for each full year of service. Annual leave entitlements accrue continuously, will be credited fortnightly and are cumulative.
- (2) A part-time employee accrues a pro-rata annual leave credit based on the hours worked.
- (3) An employee who receives compensation under the *Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988* accrues annual leave credit in accordance with the preceding provisions of this clause for the first 45 weeks during which he or she receives compensation and after the end of the 45 weeks, accrues annual leave credit on a pro-rata basis based on the hours worked while he or she continues to receive compensation.
- (4) Leave does not accrue during absences on leave without pay not to count as service. However, an employee who takes 30 calendar days or less of such leave during a calendar year will be credited with leave on 31 December for the leave that would have accrued during that leave if it had counted as service.

58 Taking annual leave

- (1) The granting of annual leave is subject to operational requirements, but FPC will not unreasonably:
 - (a) refuse to authorise an employee to take an amount of annual leave that is credited to the employee; or
 - (b) revoke an authorisation enabling an employee to take annual leave during a particular period.
- (2) FPC may grant annual leave to be taken before the necessary annual leave credits accrue.
- (3) Annual leave counts as service for all purposes.
- (4) If a public holiday to be observed by employees falls within a period of annual leave granted to an employee, there will be no deduction from annual leave credit in respect of the employee's absence from duty on that public holiday.

59 Annual leave credits—portability of leave

- (1) An employee in the Service who becomes an employee in OPC will, on movement or promotion to OPC, be credited with annual leave equal to the employee's annual leave credit immediately before movement or promotion, provided there is no break in continuity of service.
- (2) An employee in the Parliamentary Service or the ACT Government Service who is engaged as an employee of OPC, will be credited with annual leave equal to the employee's annual leave credit immediately before engagement.

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- 1 (3) Any annual leave credits are to be expressed in days (rather than hours) before being
2 credited.

3 **60 Employee directed to take annual leave**

- 4 (1) FPC may direct an employee to take annual leave if, at the time the direction is given, the
5 employee has annual leave credits of more than 10 weeks.
- 6 (2) The maximum amount of annual leave FPC may direct an employee to take under this clause
7 is 1/4 of the amount of credited annual leave of the employee at the time that the direction is
8 given.

9 **61 Annual leave to be paid out when employment ceases**

10 When employment ceases, the employee is entitled to payment in lieu of annual leave in
11 respect of any outstanding annual leave credits. This payment will be made at the
12 employee's final rate of salary, including any allowances that would have been paid during
13 annual leave.

14 **62 Employees may take annual leave at half pay**

15 An employee may nominate in writing that a period of annual leave is to be taken at half pay.
16 Where annual leave is taken at half pay at the request of the employee, the employee's
17 annual leave credit will be debited with half the number of days taken on half pay.

18 **63 Restrictions on taking annual leave at half pay**

- 19 (1) An employee may only take whole days of annual leave at half pay.
- 20 (2) An employee may not take any annual leave at half pay in a year in which the employee
21 purchases additional leave.
- 22 (3) An employee may not take annual leave at half pay if, at the end of the period of annual
23 leave, the employee's annual leave credits and purchased leave credits would total more than
24 the amount that would be the annual leave credits representing 2 years service.

25 **63A Cashing out annual leave**

- 26 (1) An employee may, with the approval of FPC, cash out a portion of the employee's annual
27 leave credit.
- 28 (2) A request to cash out annual leave will not be approved if the cashing out would result in the
29 employee's remaining annual leave credits being less than 4 weeks.
- 30 (3) Each cashing out of a particular amount of annual leave credit must be by a separate
31 agreement in writing between FPC and the employee.
- 32 (4) If an employee cashes out annual leave, the employee will be paid the full amount that would
33 have been paid to the employee had the employee taken the leave at the time the payment is
34 made.

35 **64 Employees may purchase leave**

- 36 (1) Employees may purchase additional leave.
- 37 (2) Details of the purchased leave arrangements are set out in an Office Procedural Circular.

1 **Division 2—Personal/carer’s leave**

2 **Subdivision A—Overview**

3 **65 What this Division is about**

4 This Division provides for personal/carer’s leave to be granted to an employee for absences:

- 5 (a) related to the employee’s own illness; or
- 6 (b) occurring because the employee is required to provide care or support for a family
- 7 member in connection with illness; or
- 8 (c) occurring because of unplanned special circumstances.

9 Note: The circumstances and purposes for which personal/carer’s leave may be granted are set out in clause
10 69.

11 **Subdivision B—Personal/carer’s leave credits**

12 **66 Accrual of personal/carer’s leave credit**

- 13 (1) An employee accrues the following personal/carer’s leave credit:
 - 14 (a) on the date of engagement—18 days with full pay;
 - 15 (b) on the next 1 January—a pro-rata credit for the period of service since the date of
 - 16 engagement;
 - 17 (c) on each subsequent 1 January—18 days with full pay, or a pro-rata credit for an
 - 18 employee with less than 12 months service since the previous 1 January.
- 19 Personal/carer’s leave is cumulative.
- 20 (2) A part-time employee accrues personal/carer’s leave credit in accordance with this clause on
- 21 a pro-rata basis based on the employee’s hours of duty.
- 22 (3) An employee who receives compensation under the *Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation*
- 23 *Act 1988* accrues personal/carer’s leave credit for the first 45 weeks during which he or she
- 24 receives compensation and after the end of the 45 weeks, accrues personal/carer’s leave
- 25 credit on a pro-rata basis based on the hours worked while he or she continues to receive
- 26 compensation.
- 27 (4) Leave does not accrue during absences on leave without pay not to count as service.
- 28 However, an employee who takes 30 calendar days or less of such leave during a calendar
- 29 year will accrue personal/carers leave as if they did not take any leave without pay not to
- 30 count as service during the year.

31 **67 Personal/carer’s leave credits—portability of leave**

- 32 (1) An employee in the Service who becomes an employee in OPC will, on movement or
- 33 promotion to OPC, be credited with personal/carer’s leave equal to the employee’s
- 34 personal/carer’s leave (however described) credit immediately before movement or
- 35 promotion, provided there is no break in continuity of service.
- 36 (2) An employee in the Parliamentary Service or the ACT Government Service who is engaged
- 37 as an employee of OPC, will be credited with personal/carer’s leave equal to the employee’s
- 38 personal/carer’s leave (however described) credit immediately before engagement.
- 39 (3) Any personal/carer’s leave credits expressed in half-pay days will be credited at the rate of
- 40 one day of personal/carer’s leave for each 2 days of half-pay leave.

68 Previous employment may be allowed to count as service

FPC may, on or after the commencement of the employee's employment in the Service, decide that the whole or a part of a previous period of employment of the employee is to count as service for the purpose of accrual of personal/carer's leave credit.

Subdivision C—Use of personal/carer's leave

69 Personal/carer's leave with pay

- (1) FPC may grant personal/carer's leave with pay to an employee in accordance with personal/carer's leave credit available to the employee in the following circumstances or for the following purposes:
 - (a) where the employee is unfit for duty because of illness;
 - (b) where the employee attends a medical appointment;
 - (c) for care or support for a family member, or a member of the employee's household, who requires care or support because of a personal illness of the member or an unexpected emergency affecting the member;
 - (d) for attending to essential requirements associated with birth, adoption or fostering of children;
 - (e) to attend a ceremony of religious or cultural significance which involves a family member;
 - (f) for the provision of emergency interpreting for a family member;
 - (g) to attend the employee's graduation ceremony;
 - (h) to accompany a family member to court where the family member is a party or a witness to proceedings;
 - (i) to enable the employee to participate as an accredited official or competitor in an international sporting event that FPC considers is of major international significance.
- (2) Personal/carer's leave with pay under paragraphs (1)(d) to (h) is only to be granted for occasional, non-enduring situations while longer term arrangements are made (if necessary).
- (3) Personal/carer's leave with pay cannot be used as a substitute for formal child care arrangements (for example, during school holidays). In addition, personal/carer's leave with pay cannot be granted in the following circumstances:
 - (a) attendance at a family member's school or educational facility (whether or not required or encouraged by the school or facility);
 - (b) to care for a family member on a student-free school day.
- (4) Personal/carer's leave of more than 5 consecutive days may not be granted with pay without production of a medical certificate or, if it is not reasonably practicable for the employee to give the employer a medical certificate, a statutory declaration made by the employee.
- (5) An application for personal/carer's leave with pay must specify the paragraph in subclause (1) under which it is made and be supported by reasons for the application.
- (6) Where the employee attends a counselling appointment through the employee assistance program, the appointment can be treated as a medical appointment under paragraph (1)(b).

70 Personal/carer's leave on half pay

Any part of an employee's personal/carer's leave credit may be taken on half pay at the request of the employee, and the employee's personal/carer's leave credit will be debited with half the number of days taken on half pay.

1 **71 Anticipation of personal/carer's leave credit**

2 If the employee's personal/carer's leave credit is exhausted, FPC may allow the employee to
3 use up to 15 days personal/carer's leave credit in advance of the credit accruing.

4 **72 Personal/carer's leave without pay**

- 5 (1) FPC may grant personal/carer's leave without pay:
6 (a) to an employee who has no personal/carer's leave credit available; or
7 (b) in exceptional circumstances and at the request of the employee, to an employee who
8 has personal/carer's leave credit available.
- 9 (2) If a medical certificate or other evidence is required under clause 69 and it is not provided,
10 the personal/carer's leave granted to an employee must be without pay.

11 **73 When does personal/carer's leave count as service?**

- 12 (1) A period of personal/carer's leave counts as service for all purposes except in circumstances
13 covered by any of subclauses (2) to (4).
- 14 (2) Personal/carer's leave granted without pay because of subclause 72(2) does not count as
15 service for any purpose.
- 16 (3) If an employee has been granted personal/carer's leave for a continuous period of more than
17 78 weeks (including at least 52 weeks leave with pay), any of the personal/carer's leave that
18 is without pay after the end of the first 78 weeks does not count as service for any purpose.
- 19 (4) If an employee has been granted personal/carer's leave without pay for a continuous period
20 of more than 26 weeks, any of the personal/carer's leave that is without pay after the end of
21 the first 26 weeks does not count as service for any purpose.

22 **Subdivision D—Provisions applicable only to illness of employee**

23 **74 FPC may direct leave of absence**

24 If a medical report obtained for the purpose of determining an employee's fitness for duty
25 states that the employee is unfit for duty, FPC may grant the employee personal/carer's leave
26 in accordance with the report and direct the employee to absent himself or herself from duty
27 during the period of leave.

28 **75 Personal/carers leave not available while on maternity leave**

29 An employee is not entitled to personal/carer's leave with pay for any period when the
30 employee is entitled to leave with pay under the *Maternity Leave (Commonwealth*
31 *Employees) Act 1973* or under subclauses 81(1) or 81A(1) of this Agreement.

32 **76 Employee sick on public holiday**

33 If an employee is unfit for duty because of illness on a public holiday, the employee's
34 personal/carer's leave credit is not reduced for that day.

35 **77 Invalidity**

- 36 (1) The retirement of an employee on invalidity grounds must not, without the employee's
37 consent, take effect earlier than the day when the employee's credit for personal/carer's
38 leave is exhausted unless the continuous period for which the employee is granted

1 personal/carer's leave with pay (whether full pay or half pay or a combination) immediately
2 before retirement exceeds 52 weeks.

- 3 (2) If a person, after retirement on invalidity grounds, is re-engaged because of action taken
4 under section 75 of the *Superannuation Act 1976*, the person must be credited on
5 re-engagement with the personal/carer's leave at his or her credit immediately before
6 retirement.

7 **78 [not required]**

8 **Subdivision E—Unpaid carer's leave**

9 **79 Unpaid carer's leave to care for family member etc.**

10 FPC may grant personal/carer's leave without pay for a period of up to 2 days leave for each
11 occasion when a family member of the employee requires care or support during such a
12 period because of a personal illness of the member or an unexpected emergency affecting the
13 member. This leave does not count as service for any purpose.

14 **Division 3—Leave for particular purposes**

15 **80 Parental leave**

- 16 (1) An employee is entitled to leave of absence without pay, during the period commencing on
17 the day of the birth of a child of the employee, or, in the case of an adopted child, on the day
18 on which the employee assumes responsibility for the child, and ending 104 weeks later, for
19 the purpose of enabling the employee to care for the child. This leave does not count as
20 service for any purpose.
- 21 (2) The maximum period of leave of absence which may be granted by virtue of subclause (1) is
22 52 weeks. However, if an employee has been granted maternity leave without pay under the
23 *Maternity Leave (Commonwealth Employees) Act 1973*, the maximum period of leave which
24 may be granted is such that the aggregate period of leave granted under the maternity leave
25 provision of the *Maternity Leave (Commonwealth Employees) Act 1973* (not including the
26 period of required absence under that Act) and the period of leave granted under
27 subclause (1) does not exceed 36 weeks.
- 28 (3) An employee who is the parent of a new-born child, or is the partner of a parent of a new-
29 born child and has caring responsibilities for the child, but who is not entitled to maternity
30 leave under the *Maternity Leave (Commonwealth Employees) Act 1973* is entitled to up to 4
31 weeks of paid parental leave. This leave counts as service for all purposes.
- 32 (4) Employees are entitled to unpaid parental leave in accordance with the National
33 Employment Standards provided for under Division 5 of Part 2-2 of Chapter 2 of the *Fair
34 Work Act 2009*.
- 35 (5) On ending parental or maternity leave, an employee is entitled to return to:
36 (a) the employee's pre-parental or pre-maternity leave duties; or
37 (b) if those duties no longer exist—an available position for which the employee is
38 qualified and suited, at the same classification and pay as applied pre-parental or pre-
39 maternity leave. Where this is not practical, other duties will be sought, with the
40 provisions at Part 8 applying to any placement.

1 **81 Adoption leave**

- 2 (1) An ongoing APS employee with at least 12 months continuous service in OPC or another
3 APS agency who has adopted a child and who will be the primary caregiver for the child is
4 entitled to up to 16 weeks paid leave for the purposes of caring for the child. This leave
5 counts as service for all purposes.
- 6 (2) An ongoing APS employee who has adopted a child, or is the partner of a parent who has
7 adopted a child and has caring responsibilities for the child, but who is not entitled to leave
8 under subclause (1) is entitled to up to 4 weeks paid leave for the purposes of caring for the
9 child. This leave counts as service for all purposes.
- 10 (3) Documentary evidence of approval for adoption must be submitted when applying for
11 adoption leave and immediately before the adoption, the adoptive child must not be a child
12 or step-child of the employee or the employee's partner.

13 **81A Foster carer's leave**

- 14 (1) An ongoing APS employee with at least 12 months continuous service in OPC or another
15 APS agency who has fostered a child and who will be the primary caregiver for the child is
16 entitled to up to 16 weeks paid leave for the purposes of caring for the child. This leave
17 counts as service for all purposes.
- 18 (2) An ongoing APS employee who has fostered a child, or is the partner of a parent who has
19 fostered a child and has caring responsibilities for the child, but who is not entitled to leave
20 under subclause (1) is entitled to up to 4 weeks paid leave for the purposes of caring for the
21 child. This leave counts as service for all purposes.
- 22 (3) Documentary evidence of enduring parental responsibilities under formal fostering
23 arrangements must be submitted when applying for foster carer's leave.

24 **82 Long service leave**

25 The entitlement to long service leave is provided for under the *Long Service Leave*
26 *(Commonwealth Employees) Act 1976*. Leave will only be granted for a minimum period of
27 7 consecutive calendar days.

28 **83 Maternity leave**

29 The entitlement to maternity leave is provided for under the *Maternity Leave*
30 *(Commonwealth Employees) Act 1973*. An employee who is entitled to paid maternity leave
31 under the *Maternity Leave (Commonwealth Employees) Act 1973* is entitled to up to 4 weeks
32 additional paid maternity leave. However, the total paid maternity leave must not exceed 16
33 weeks.

34 **84 Other leave for particular purposes**

35 An Office Procedural Circular sets out the circumstances in which the following forms of
36 leave can be taken:
37 (a) War service sick leave;
38 (b) Ceremonial, cultural and NAIDOC leave.

39 **84A Defence Reserve leave**

- 40 (1) In accordance with the *Defence Reserve Service (Protection) Act 2001*, OPC supports the
41 release of Defence Reservists for peacetime training and deployment.

- 1 (2) An employee who is a member of a Defence Reserve is entitled to 20 days leave on full pay
2 each year for the purposes of undertaking Defence Reserve service or training. Any leave not
3 taken during a year may be taken during the following year (but not during any year after
4 that following year).
- 5 (3) In the year in which an employee joins a Defence Reserve, the employee is entitled to an
6 additional 10 days leave on full pay for the purposes of undertaking initial Defence Reserve
7 training.
- 8 (4) For the purposes of determining leave entitlements under subclauses (2) and (3), a year
9 begins on the day on which the employee becomes a member of a Defence Reserve and on
10 each anniversary of that day, and leave may be taken at any time during the year.
- 11 (5) FPC may grant further leave for the purposes of Defence Reserve service or training. Such
12 further leave may be granted on full or part pay or without pay.
- 13 (6) Subject to subclause (7), leave under this clause is to count as service for all purposes.
- 14 (7) Periods of leave without pay under this clause that exceed 6 months in any 12 month period
15 do not count as service for the purposes of accruing annual leave.

16 **84B Community service leave**

- 17 (1) An employee who engages in an eligible community service activity (including a voluntary
18 emergency management activity and jury service) is entitled to a period of leave in
19 accordance with Division 8 of Part 2-2 of Chapter 2 of the *Fair Work Act 2009*.
- 20 (2) The entitlement to leave with pay for a voluntary emergency management activity and jury
21 service is provided for in clause 85 of this Agreement.
- 22 (3) Periods of leave granted, with or without pay, for voluntary emergency management
23 activities include leave for emergency service responses, regular training, reasonable
24 recovery time and ceremonial duties.

25 **Division 4—Other leave**

26 **85 Leave with pay**

- 27 (1) Leave with pay (to count as service for all purposes) will be granted to an employee in the
28 following circumstances:
- 29 (a) if a family member, or a member of the household, of the employee dies—maximum
30 of 3 days for each bereavement;
- 31 (b) if a family member, or a member of the household, of the employee:
32 (i) contracts or develops a personal illness that poses a serious threat to his or her
33 life; or
34 (ii) sustains a personal injury that poses a serious threat to his or her life;
35 maximum of 3 days for each occasion;
- 36 (c) if the employee's home or contents have been destroyed or significantly damaged by
37 an event that FPC considers a disaster—maximum of 3 days;
- 38 (d) to enable the employee to attend an emergency (e.g. bushfire, flood) as a member of a
39 recognised emergency management body—maximum of 4 days;
- 40 (e) if the employee is required to serve on a jury or to give evidence at legal or industrial
41 proceedings;
- 42 (f) to enable an employee who is a returned soldier to receive medical attention or undergo
43 a pension review—maximum of 10 days;

- 1 (g) to attend the funeral of a close friend—a maximum of 4 hours if the funeral is in the
2 Canberra region or a maximum of 1 day if the funeral is elsewhere;
- 3 (h) to attend to responsibilities such as funeral arrangements, executor duties,
4 administrative estate duties or duties to assist police or legal authorities with enquiries
5 where a family member of an employee has died—maximum of 5 days for each
6 bereavement;
- 7 (i) to move house—maximum of one day in any period of 12 months;
- 8 (j) in any other circumstances at FPC’s discretion.

9 (2) If a maximum period for the leave is specified in subclause (1), the period may be extended
10 at FPC’s discretion.

11 **86 Leave without pay**

- 12 (1) Leave without pay (not to count as service for any purpose) will be granted to an employee
13 to enable the employee to accompany a partner on a posting away from the ACT.
- 14 (2) Leave without pay (to count as service for all purposes except the accrual of annual leave
15 credits) will be granted to an employee to engage in employment outside the Service, if FPC
16 is satisfied that the proposed employment would be in the interests of the Service.
- 17 (3) Leave without pay (to count as service for all purposes) will be granted to an employee to
18 take up employment in accordance with clause 2.1 of the Prime Minister’s Public Service
19 Directions 1999.
- 20 (4) Leave without pay will be granted to an employee to engage in employment outside the
21 Service for purposes associated with compensation leave. This leave will count as service for
22 all purposes, except that, in determining the accrual of annual and personal/carer’s leave
23 credits (see clause 57 and clause 66), it will be treated as a period during which the employee
24 is receiving compensation.
- 25 (5) Leave without pay (not to count as service for any purpose) may be granted, at FPC’s
26 discretion, for any purpose for which leave could not otherwise be granted. However, this
27 leave will only be granted in exceptional circumstances.

28 **87 Leave under this Division**

- 29 (1) Leave under this Division may be granted subject to conditions.
- 30 (2) Leave without pay under this Division does not count as service for any purpose if the
31 employee does not resume duty in the Service at the end of the period of leave.

32 **Division 5—Miscellaneous**

33 **88 Expenses—cancellation of leave or recall to duty**

- 34 (1) This provision applies if an employee’s leave is cancelled without reasonable notice or an
35 employee is recalled to work from leave.
- 36 (2) On request from the employee, he or she will be reimbursed such travel costs and incidental
37 expenses as FPC thinks reasonable, being costs and expenses incurred in respect of the
38 employee or any family member travelling with or intended to travel with the employee and
39 that are not otherwise recoverable under any insurance or from any other source.

89 Public holidays

- (1) Employees will be entitled to the following public holidays:
- (a) New Year's Day (1 January);
 - (b) Australia Day (26 January);
 - (c) Good Friday;
 - (d) Easter Monday;
 - (e) Anzac Day (25 April);
 - (f) the Queen's birthday holiday (on the day on which it is celebrated in a State or Territory or a region of a State or Territory);
 - (g) Christmas Day (25 December);
 - (h) Boxing Day (26 December);
 - (i) any other day, or part-day, declared or prescribed by or under a law of a State or Territory to be observed generally within the State or Territory, or a region of the State or Territory, as a public holiday, other than a day or part-day, or a kind of day or part-day, that is excluded by the *Fair Work Regulations 2009* from counting as a public holiday.
- (2) If under a State or Territory law, a day or part-day is substituted for one of the public holidays listed above, then the substituted day or part-day is the public holiday.
- (3) FPC and an employee may agree on the substitution of a day or part-day that would otherwise be a public holiday, having regard to operational requirements.
- (4) An employee, who is absent on a day or part-day that is a public holiday in the place where the employee is based for work purposes, is entitled to be paid for the part or full day absence as if that day or part-day was not a public holiday, except where that person would not normally have worked on that day.
- (5) Where a public holiday falls during a period when an employee is absent on leave (other than annual or paid personal/carer's leave) there is no entitlement to receive payment as a public holiday. Payment for that day would be in accordance with the entitlement for that form of leave (e.g. if on long service leave on half pay, payment is on half pay).

90 Christmas shutdown

- (1) OPC will close its normal operations from close of business on the last working day before Christmas, with business resuming on the first working day after New Year's Day.
- (2) Employees will be provided with time off for the working days between Christmas and New Year's Day and will be paid in accordance with their ordinary hours of work. Where an employee is absent on leave, payment for the Christmas shutdown will be in accordance with the entitlement for that form of leave (e.g. if on long service leave on half pay, payment is on half pay).
- (3) There will be no deduction from annual or personal/carer's leave credits for the shutdown days.

Part 7—Operations

91 Performance management

- (1) OPC's Performance Management Programs provide the framework for managing and improving the performance of employees and identifying present and future development opportunities for employees. Details of OPC's Performance Management Programs are set out in Office Procedural Circulars.

- 1 (2) Training in performance management will be offered from time to time to all staff involved
2 in a program.

3 **92 Temporary performance allowance**

- 4 (1) An employee temporarily assigned to perform all or part of the duties of a higher
5 classification or local designation for a period of at least 1 week will be paid an allowance
6 (*temporary performance allowance* or *TPA*) equal to the difference between the employee's
7 own salary and the salary the employee would receive if promoted to the higher
8 classification or local designation or, in the case of partial performance of duties, an
9 alternative amount determined by FPC.
- 10 (2) An Office Procedural Circular sets out guidelines for decisions about directing employees to
11 perform duties at a higher level, and for matters relating to the performance of duties in those
12 circumstances.
- 13 (3) Where an employee is temporarily directed to perform duties at a level in the SES, the
14 employee's rate of payment, and entitlement to a motor vehicle or an allowance in respect of
15 a motor vehicle, is to be determined by FPC.

16 **Part 8—Redeployment, retirement and redundancy**

17 **93 Application**

18 These provisions only apply to employees:

- 19 (a) who are excess employees; and
20 (b) who are not serving a probationary period; and
21 (c) who are ongoing APS employees with more than one year's service.
22

23 **94 Excess employees**

24 An employee is an excess employee if the employee is excess to the requirements of OPC
25 because:

- 26 (a) the employee is included in a class of employees employed in OPC, and the class
27 comprises a greater number of employees than is necessary for the efficient and
28 economical working of OPC; or
29 (b) the services of the employee cannot be effectively used because of technological or
30 other changes in the work methods of OPC or changes in the nature, extent or
31 organisation of the function of OPC.

32 **95 FPC's obligations**

33 Throughout the application of this Part, FPC will take all reasonable steps, consistent with
34 the efficient management of OPC, to move an excess employee to a suitable vacancy at an
35 equal classification level within OPC or in another APS agency.

36 **96 Consultation process**

- 37 (1) When FPC is aware that an employee is, or employees are, likely to become excess, FPC
38 will, at the earliest practicable time, advise the employee(s) of the situation.
- 39 (2) Discussions with the potentially excess employee(s) or, if an employee requests, with the
40 employee's representative, will be held to consider:

- 1 (a) measures which might be taken to reduce the likelihood of an employee or employees
2 becoming excess; and
3 (b) immediate referral to a provider of redeployment services; and
4 (c) redeployment opportunities for the employee(s) concerned, including identifying
5 whether the employee(s) seeks redeployment; and
6 (d) whether voluntary redundancy might be appropriate and whether the employee(s)
7 wants to be offered voluntary redundancy.

8 (3) FPC may, before the conclusion of these discussions, invite employees who are not
9 potentially excess to express interest in voluntary redundancy, if those terminations would
10 permit the redeployment of employees who are potentially excess. FPC will not advise an
11 employee that he or she is excess until the discussions referred to in subclause (2) have
12 occurred. The period of these discussions will not exceed one month (or such other period as
13 is agreed between FPC and that employee).

14 (4) If 15 or more employees are likely to become excess:

- 15 (a) FPC will not invite employees to express interest in voluntary redundancy or advise an
16 employee that he or she is excess within one month (or such lesser period as agreed)
17 after advising employees that they are likely to become excess; and
18 (b) FPC will also, having regard to section 531 of the *Fair Work Act 2009*, invite each
19 trade union of which any of the employees is a member, and which represents the
20 industrial interest of such of those employees as are members, to participate in the
21 discussions referred to in subclause (2).

22 (5) If FPC declares 15 or more employees excess, he or she will advise Centrelink of the
23 proposed redundancies.

24 **97 Voluntary redundancy**

- 25 (1) If FPC invites an excess employee to do so, the employee will have one month to elect in
26 writing for voluntary redundancy. FPC will not give notice of termination before the end of
27 that period or until such election is received, whichever is earlier.
- 28 (2) Within the month provided for under subclause (1), the employee must be given information
29 on:
30 (a) the amount of his or her severance pay, pay in lieu of notice and paid up leave credits;
31 and
32 (b) the amount of his or her accumulated superannuation contributions; and
33 (c) options open to him or her concerning superannuation; and
34 (d) the taxation rules applying to the various payments.
- 35 (3) An excess employee who declines an offer of voluntary redundancy or who does not elect
36 for voluntary redundancy within the one month period will immediately be referred to a
37 provider of redeployment services.

38 **98 Period of notice**

- 39 (1) If the employee agrees to his or her employment being voluntarily terminated, FPC can
40 approve the termination of the employee's employment and, upon approval, will give the
41 required notice of termination. The period of notice will be 4 weeks (or 5 weeks for an
42 employee aged over 45 with at least 5 years of continuous service).
- 43 (2) If an employee retires or the employee's employment is terminated at the beginning of, or
44 within, the notice period, the employee will receive payment in lieu of notice for the
45 unexpired portion of the notice period.

1 **99 Severance benefit**

- 2 (1) An employee whose employment is terminated under subclause 98(1) is entitled to be paid
3 an amount equal to 2 weeks salary for each completed year of service, plus a pro rata
4 payment for completed months of service since the last completed year of service, subject to
5 any minimum amount the employee is entitled to under the National Employment Standards.
- 6 (2) The minimum amount payable will be 4 weeks salary and the maximum will be 48 weeks
7 salary.
- 8 (3) If an employee has less than 24 years full-time service, the severance benefit will be
9 calculated on a pro rata basis for any period when the employee has worked part-time hours
10 during the period of service.
- 11 (4) Subject to subclauses (5), (6) and (7), *service* for severance pay purposes under this clause
12 means:
- 13 (a) service in OPC; and
14 (b) Government service as defined in section 10 of the *Long Service Leave*
15 (*Commonwealth Employees) Act 1976*; and
16 (c) service with the Commonwealth (other than service with a joint Commonwealth-State
17 body corporate in which the Commonwealth does not have a controlling interest)
18 which is recognised for long service leave purposes; and
19 (d) service with the Australian Defence Forces; and
20 (e) service in the Service immediately preceding deemed resignation due to marriage
21 under section 49 of the *Public Service Act 1922* as in force before 18 November 1966,
22 if the service has not previously been recognised for severance pay purposes; and
23 (f) service in another organisation if:
24 (i) an employee was transferred from the Service to that organisation with a transfer
25 of function; or
26 (ii) an employee engaged by that organisation on work within a function is engaged
27 as a result of the transfer of that function to the Service;
28 and such service is recognised for long service leave purposes.
- 29 (5) Any period of service which ceased:
- 30 (a) through termination on any of the following grounds or on a ground equivalent to any
31 of the following grounds:
32 (i) the employee lacked, or had lost, an essential qualification for performing his or
33 her duties;
34 (ii) non-performance, or unsatisfactory performance, of duties;
35 (iii) inability to perform duties because of physical or mental incapacity;
36 (iv) failure to satisfactorily complete an entry level training course;
37 (v) failure to meet a condition imposed under subsection 22(6) of the *Public Service*
38 *Act 1999*;
39 (vi) a breach of the Code of Conduct; or
40 (b) under the *Public Service Act 1922* on a ground equivalent to a ground set out in
41 paragraph (a); or
42 (c) through voluntary retirement at or above the minimum retiring age applicable to the
43 employee; or
44 (d) with the payment of redundancy benefit, a similar payment or an employer-financed
45 retirement benefit;
46 will not count as service for severance pay purposes.

- 1 (6) Absences from work which do not count as service for any purpose will not count as service
2 for severance pay purposes.
- 3 (7) For earlier periods of service to count there must be no breaks between the periods of
4 service, except if the break in service is less than 1 month and an offer of employment with
5 the new employer was made and accepted by the employee before ceasing employment with
6 the preceding employer.

7 **100 Rate of payment—severance benefit**

8 For the purpose of calculating any payment under this Part, *salary* includes:

- 9 (a) the employee's salary; and
10 (b) TPA, if the employee has been receiving TPA for a continuous period of at least 12
11 months immediately preceding the date on which the employee is given notice of
12 termination; and
13 (c) other allowances in the nature of salary which are paid during periods of annual leave
14 and on a regular basis, excluding allowances which are a reimbursement for expenses
15 incurred, or a payment for disabilities associated with the performance of duty.

16 **101 Retention and redeployment**

- 17 (1) Unless the employee agrees, an excess employee's employment will not be terminated until
18 the following retention period has elapsed:

- 19 (a) if an employee has 20 or more years of service or is over 45 years of age—13 months;
20 (b) in any other case—7 months.

21 If an employee is entitled to a redundancy payment under the National Employment
22 Standards, the retention period will be reduced by an amount equivalent to an employee's
23 redundancy entitlement under the National Employment Standards on termination.

- 24 (2) The retention period commences on the earlier of the following:

- 25 (a) the day the employee is advised in writing by FPC that he or she is an excess
26 employee;
27 (b) one month after the day on which FPC invites the employee to elect to have his or her
28 employment terminated.

- 29 (3) During the retention period, FPC:

- 30 (a) will continue to take reasonable steps to find alternative employment for the excess
31 employee; and
32 (b) may, with 4 weeks' notice, reduce the excess employee's classification as a means of
33 securing alternative employment for the excess employee.

34 If an excess employee's classification is reduced before the end of the retention period, the
35 employee will continue to be paid at the previous classification for the balance of the
36 retention period.

- 37 (4) The excess employee may request assistance in meeting reasonable travel and incidental
38 expenses incurred in seeking alternative employment and FPC may approve the payment of
39 such assistance as he or she thinks reasonable.

- 40 (5) The retention periods specified in subclause (1) and the notice period specified in subclause
41 102(3) will be extended by any periods of personal/carers leave supported by medical
42 evidence which is taken during these periods.

- 43 (6) If:

- 44 (a) an excess employee has been receiving redeployment assistance from a provider of
45 redeployment services for 2 months; and

1 (b) the provider of redeployment services certifies that there is no reasonable prospect of
2 redeployment in the Service; and

3 (c) FPC believes there is insufficient productive work available for an excess employee
4 during the remainder of the retention period;

5 FPC may, with the agreement of the employee, terminate the employee's employment and
6 pay the balance of the retention period, reduced by an amount equivalent to the employee's
7 entitlement to redundancy pay under the National Employment Standards, as a lump sum
8 and this payment will be taken to include the payment in lieu of notice of termination.

9 **102 Termination**

10 (1) FPC may terminate the employment of an excess employee at the end of the retention period.

11 (2) An excess employee's employment will not be terminated if:

12 (a) the employee has not been invited to elect to be voluntarily terminated under subclause
13 97(1); or

14 (b) the employee has elected to have his or her employment voluntarily terminated but
15 FPC has refused to approve such termination.

16 (3) An excess employee will be given 4 weeks notice (or 5 weeks notice for an employee over
17 45 with at least 5 years of continuous service) if it is proposed that the employee's
18 employment be terminated. This notice period will, as far as practicable, be served
19 concurrently with the retention period.

20 **103 Accelerated separation arrangements for redundancy purposes**

21 (1) OPC may offer an accelerated separation option to employees likely to be subject to this
22 Part. In addition to the severance benefit, this option entitles an employee who:

23 (a) has been identified as being eligible to be made an offer of voluntary redundancy; and

24 (b) retires within 14 days after receiving the offer;

25 to an amount of 10 weeks salary (or 11 weeks salary for an employee at least 45 years of age
26 with at least 5 years continuous service).

27 (2) This option is available to employees who retire voluntarily from OPC before the
28 commencement of any formal consultation with employees and, where they choose, their
29 nominated representatives. The payments made under this clause are inclusive of any award
30 or statutory entitlement to payment in lieu of notice.

31 (3) If an employee has elected not to accept an accelerated separation offer, the other provisions
32 of this Part will then apply.

33 **104 [not required]**

34 **105 Termination of employment—review mechanism**

35 Subclauses 7(1) and (2) provide for the review mechanisms for decisions related to
36 termination of employment.
37
38

39 **Part 9—Transitional arrangements**

40 **106 Preservation of annual leave credits**

41 At the commencement of this Agreement, each employee is credited with accrued annual
42 leave credit equal to the employee's accrued annual leave credit immediately before that
43 commencement.

107 Preservation of personal/carer's leave credits

At the commencement of this Agreement, each employee is credited with accrued personal/carer's leave credit equal to the employee's accrued personal/carer's leave credit immediately before that commencement.

Part 10—Definitions

108 Definitions

(1) In this Agreement, unless the contrary intention appears:

2PC means a Second Parliamentary Counsel.

APC 1 means Assistant Parliamentary Counsel Grade 1.

APC 2 means Assistant Parliamentary Counsel Grade 2.

APC 3 means Assistant Parliamentary Counsel Grade 3.

APS agency means an agency staffed under the *Public Service Act 1999*.

child includes an adopted child.

Defence Reserve means the Naval Reserve, the Army Reserve or the Air Force Reserve.

Note: For Naval Reserve, Army Reserve and Air Force Reserve, see the *Naval Defence Act 1910*, the *Defence Act 1903* and the *Air Force Act 1923*.

dependant in relation to an employee means:

- (a) the partner of the employee; or
- (b) a child or parent of the employee, or of the partner of the employee, being a child or parent who ordinarily resides with the employee and who is wholly or substantially dependent upon the employee.

dependent child means a child who is a dependant of the employee and is less than 21 years of age.

drafter means a person who occupies a position of APC 1, 2 or 3.

family member, for an employee, means a person who:

- (a) is related to the employee by blood, marriage, affinity or adoption; or
- (b) stands in a bona fide domestic or household relationship with the employee, without discrimination as to sexual preference; or
- (c) is a child, foster child or ward of the employee or of a person who stands in a bona fide domestic or household relationship with the employee.

FPC means First Parliamentary Counsel.

full-time employee means an employee other than a part-time employee.

illness includes an injury or medical condition.

medical certificate means a certificate of a registered health practitioner, or other evidence of illness approved by FPC.

member of OPC means:

- (a) a non-SES employee in OPC; or
- (b) an SES employee working in OPC; or
- (c) a 2PC; or
- (d) FPC.

normal bandwidth means the span of hours specified in subclause 23(3) (7.00 am to 7.00 pm, Monday to Friday).

1 *ongoing APS employee* has the same meaning as in the *Public Service Act 1999*.

2 *OPC* means the Office of Parliamentary Counsel.

3 *partner* means, in relation to a person who is a member of a couple, the other member of the
4 couple.

5 *part-time employee* means an employee who is working part-time hours.

6 *personal/carer's leave credit* means personal/carer's leave credit accrued under Subdivision
7 B of Division 2 of Part 7.

8 *registered health practitioner* means:

- 9 (a) a person who is registered or licensed as a health practitioner (or a health practitioner
10 of a particular type) under a law of a State or Territory; or
11 (b) a Medical Officer in Health Services Australia.

12 *salary barrier* is defined in subclause (2).

13 *Service* means the Australian Public Service.

14 *SES* means Senior Executive Service.

15 *superannuation salary* means the annual rate of superannuation salary within the meaning
16 of the *Superannuation Act 1990* worked out on the assumption that the employee was a
17 regular employee within the meaning of that Act.

18 *term of this Agreement* is the period starting when the Agreement comes into operation and
19 ending on the nominal expiry date of the Agreement.

20 *TPA* means temporary performance allowance.

21 *WCC* means the Workplace Consultative Committee continued in operation under clause 9.

22 *work group* is defined in subclause (3).

- 23 (2) An employee is *above the salary barrier* while he or she is employed or acting in a position
24 the minimum annual salary of which exceeds the maximum annual salary payable to an APS
25 Level 6 employee. In any other case, an employee is *below the salary barrier*.
- 26 (3) The *work groups* in OPC are as follows:
27 (a) SES drafters;
28 (b) Assistant Drafters;
29 (c) Corporate Services.
- 30

Attachment A—Salaries

1 Salaries

Table A—Salaries payable under this Agreement—employees other than drafters				
1. Broadband and classification or local designation	2. Pay points	3. Salary from commencement of agreement	4. Salary from 1 July 2012	5. Salary from 1 July 2013
OPC Broadband A				
APS Level 1	APS1.1	41702	42953	43812
	APS1.2	43100	44394	45281
	APS1.3	44268	45596	46508
	APS1.4	46088	47471	48420
APS Level 2	APS2.1	47192	48608	49580
	APS2.2	48492	49946	50945
	APS2.3	49765	51258	52284
	APS2.4	51058	52590	53641
	APS2.5	52335	53905	54983
APS Level 3	APS3.1	53753	55366	56473
	APS3.2	55150	56805	57941
	APS3.3	56551	58248	59413
	APS3.4	58017	59758	60953
OPC Broadband B				
APS Level 4	APS4.1	59909	61706	62940
	APS4.2	61815	63670	64943
	APS4.3	63422	65325	66631
	APS4.4	65049	67000	68340
APS Level 5	APS5.1	66820	68825	70201
	APS5.2	68917	70984	72404
	APS5.3	70857	72983	74443
APS Level 6	APS6.1	72172	74337	75824
	APS6.2	73968	76187	77711
	APS6.3	75993	78273	79838
	APS6.4	79815	82209	83853
	APS6.5	82905	85392	87100
Executive Level 1	E1.1	91715	94467	96356
	E1.2	99100	102073	104114
	E1.3	105499	108664	110838
	E1.4	111366	114707	117001
Executive Level 2	E2.1	105499	108664	110838
	E2.2	111366	114707	117001
	E2.3	119770	123363	125830
	E2.4	123815	127530	130080
	E2.5	127011	130821	133438

Table B—Salaries payable under this Agreement—drafters				
1. Classification or local designation	2. Pay points	3. Salary from commencement of agreement	4. Salary from 1 July 2012	5. Salary from 1 July 2013
Assistant Parliamentary Counsel Grade 1 (<i>APC 1</i>)	APC1.1 (APS 3.3)	56551	58248	59413
	APC1.2 (APS 4.3)	63422	65325	66631
	APC1.3 (APS 5.2)	68917	70984	72404
	APC1.4 (APS 6.1)	72172	74337	75824
	APC1.5 (APS 6.3)	75993	78273	79838
	APC1.6 (APS 6.5)	82905	85392	87100
	APC1.7 (APS 6.6)	91715	94467	96356
	APC1.8 (APS 6.7)	99100	102073	104114
	APC1.9 (APS 6.8)	105499	108664	110838
Assistant Parliamentary Counsel Grade 2 (<i>APC 2</i>)	APC2.1 (E1.1)	91715	94467	96356
	APC2.2 (E1.2)	99100	102073	104114
	APC2.3 (E1.3)	105499	108664	110838
	APC2.4 (E1.4)	111366	114707	117001
Assistant Parliamentary Counsel Grade 3 (<i>APC 3</i>)	APC3.1 (E2.1)	105499	108664	110838
	APC3.2 (E2.2)	111366	114707	117001
	APC3.3 (E2.3)	119770	123363	125830
	APC3.4 (E2.4)	123815	127530	130080
	APC3.5 (E2.5)	127011	130821	133438

1

2 **[Table C is not required]**

3

4 **2 Junior Rates of Pay**5 Junior rates of pay will apply to APS 1 Level, with rates expressed as a percentage of the rate
6 as shown in Table A as follows:

- 7 (a) Under 18 years—60 per cent;
8 (b) At 18 years—70 per cent;
9 (c) At 19 years—81 per cent;
10 (d) At 20 years—91 per cent.

11 **3 Workers eligible for a supported wage**

12 An Office Procedural Circular sets out the conditions that will apply to employees who,
13 because of the effects of a disability, are eligible for a supported wage under the Office
14 Procedural Circular.
15