

Barbara Perry MP

Shadow Minister for Community and Family Services

Sophie Cotsis MLC

Shadow Minister for Women

Shadow Minister for Industrial Relations



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IT'S TIME FOR BARRY O'FARRELL TO STEP UP AND FUND EQUAL PAY FOR NSW SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY WORKERS

Shadow Minister for Community and Family Services, Barbara Perry and Shadow Minister for Women, Sophie Cotsis have welcomed the announcement from the Gillard Government today that it will provide \$2 billion over six years to fund an increase for some of Australia's lowest paid workers.

"The Gillard Government should be congratulated for their announcement today that will help deliver pay equity to more than 30,000 workers in NSW," said Ms Perry.

"Unfortunately, without a funding commitment from the O'Farrell Government, NSW could miss out on the full benefits of the Fair Work Australia case.

"The O'Farrell Government needs to stop skirting around the issue and show some leadership by joining in partnership with the Gillard Government to fund NSW's fair share.

"Minister for Family and Community Services Pru Goward of all people should know that fair pay is essential to the fundamental wellbeing and capacity of the sector.

"We are talking about workers who care for the most vulnerable people in our communities, including children, the aged, people with disabilities and victims of domestic violence."

Shadow Minister for Women Sophie Cotsis said today is a significant milestone for Australian woman in closing the pay gap.

"Barry O'Farrell needs to stop making excuses and fund equal pay for the more than 30,000 women working in the community services sector in NSW," said Ms Cotsis.

"For decades, the female dominated community services workforce has fallen behind when it comes to wages and conditions.

"The Prime Minister's announcement today is a big win for community workers who do some of the most important work in society and deserve to be paid accordingly."

MEDIA CONTACT: LUCY MUIRHEAD 0402 730 710