

PRESIDENT: Any changes in appearances?

MR S. WALSH: Yes, Mr President, WALSH Stephen, appearing on behalf of the AMWU.

PRESIDENT: Yes. Thanks, Mr Walsh. Well, tell me what's happened, Ms Thomas.

5 MS THOMAS: Yes, I can advise, Mr President, that the parties have met. That, in fact, occurred yesterday. We are very close to an agreement on a final draft order. The only remaining areas of difference between the parties relate to the salaries for level C.2, C.3 and C.7 the associate diploma, and the first two rates that appear there, and because we are unagreed on C.2 the second lot of junior rates - the technical
10 assistants - are also to be confirmed.

I have put an alternative proposal to Mr Baker this morning on the fax machine but, unfortunately, Mr Baker wasn't there to receive it.

I have an exhibit I will tender for you.

PRESIDENT: Very good. This is your first exhibit in this matter, isn't it, Ms Thomas?

15 MS THOMAS: Yes, it is.

PRESIDENT: Mark this T.1.

MS THOMAS: I think the relevant -

PRESIDENT: Do you want it all together?

20 MS THOMAS: Yes, thank you. I think the relevant part of the document I will take you to today is the MRA schedule which goes to those areas of difference between the parties.

Basically our proposal is that we take the existing rate and we phase in the remaining increases over three almost equal increases over the next, well, a couple of years for some classifications, I think, but that would be our proposal.

25 PRESIDENT: So has the time period been agreed or discussed?

MS THOMAS: The time period has already been agreed. There is no problem with the time period.

PRESIDENT: What, you said, 'a couple of years'. What do you mean by that?

30 MS THOMAS: Some of the higher classifications I understand the increases come at 12 monthly intervals, and with the lower classifications they come at 6 monthly intervals.

PRESIDENT: Right.

35 MS THOMAS: But that is our proposal. In fact, I can confirm that classifications C.1 to C.4 they are agreed at four instalments at 6 monthly intervals, and classifications C.5 and above four instalments at 12 monthly intervals. That was the original agreement.

PRESIDENT: Yes, but now you are changing that? Is that right?

MS THOMAS: Well we have got three increases left, including the one we are looking at today. Obviously a discharge because it has been some years since we had the first increase.

PRESIDENT: Yes, that's right, and it is now out to, what?

5 MS THOMAS: Yes, but we are still looking at the 6 monthly and the 12 monthly intervals.

PRESIDENT: I see. All right.

MS THOMAS: So, subject to confirmation from Mr Baker to his approach, the TCCI would consent to the application, operative from the date that Mr Baker can confirm
10 the proposed draft order.

PRESIDENT: So -

MS THOMAS: But we may, in fact, have to report back to you just to confirm that, I think, Mr President.

PRESIDENT: Yes. I am still a little bit confused. Take me to the MRAs here on the
15 right-hand side of your schedule.

MS THOMAS: Yes.

PRESIDENT: You have got - I see - there is two at - one at 193 for commencement, two by 197 and one at 196, and so on, and which ones are those at 12 monthly -

MS THOMAS: It would only be the C.7.

20 PRESIDENT: Just the C.7.

MS THOMAS: Yes.

PRESIDENT: So that's a 3 year -

MS THOMAS: Well, one increase would be granted in the near future, and then there would be, yes, 2 years down the track for the next two increases.

25 PRESIDENT: So there would be 466, say, in July, 466 end of July 1997, 467 in July '78. Is that what you are saying?

MS THOMAS: Yes, that's right. I had made a note of something else Mr Baker said yesterday, that - let's have a look - actually, it looks as though it could be 12 monthly intervals for any classification of a relativity of 110% and above. I wrote that down. So
30 Mr Baker can confirm that. But 110% and above at 12 monthly intervals, and up to 110% at 6 monthly intervals.

PRESIDENT: And whose proposition was that?"

MS THOMAS: Mr Baker's. We discussed that yesterday and I actually made a note of it.

35 So I think the best bet might be to report back to you in the near future.

PRESIDENT: How long do you think that might take? Mr Walsh, do you want to say anything at this point in time? Yes; thanks, Ms Thomas.

MR WALSH: No, I have got nothing really to say, because I understood that the rates were agreed. There has been some areas that obviously need to be checked. I'll confer with Mr Baker as soon as I can contact him, and I think the best thing then is for us to report back to you.

5 PRESIDENT: Yes. Well, when shall we do that? We'll do it fairly quickly. How soon do you think you can get Mr Baker to respond, Mr Walsh?

MR WALSH: I know he is back in the office on Friday, so by the end of this week I should have - I don't exactly know where he is at the present time.

10 PRESIDENT: No. All right. Well, we have got some other third arbitrated safety net adjustments down on the 12th at 10.30 which involve the AFMEU - if that's what it is called now - I keep forgetting - and it might be convenient to do it before then; say, 10.00 o'clock on Monday the 12th.

MR WALSH: Right.

MS THOMAS: Yes.

15 PRESIDENT: All right. Okay, given that there are many other things to do today, we'll adjourn this matter until August 12 at 10.00 and I trust we'll have a consent order to deal with.

Thank you very much.

HEARING ADJOURNED