

PSA AND CPSU SPSF (SA BRANCH) NOVEMBER COUNCIL MEETINGS

The PSA and SPSF (SA Branch) Councils met on 23rd November 2009.

Key issues discussed in the meetings included:

GOVERNMENT JOB CUTS

Council discussed in detail the effects of recent Government job cuts stemming from the current State Budget. Increased waiting times in public access areas and significantly reduced services to those in need in the community were reported. Council heard that many public sector workers, including skilled professionals in health, community and other areas, are being forced to devote more time to administrative and other 'support' functions.

FEDERAL INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS SYSTEM

Council dealt with reports that Government Bills to provide for the referral of State Industrial Relations powers have now been passed by both the Commonwealth and South Australian Parliaments. The legislation reflects the dismantling of the Work Choices system. The effect for PSA/CPSU members is that the SA Public Sector remains within the SA Industrial jurisdiction, as strongly advocated by PSA. WorkCover and SA Lotteries have also been transferred to the State System. Forestry, SA Water and United Water, with the Universities, are covered by the Commonwealth system.