

MAXIMUM WAGE FOR SENIOR EXECUTIVES

IT'S TIME TO STOP THE RAPID GROWTH OF TAXPAYER-FUNDED CEO SALARIES

The average CEO earns 78 times more than the average worker. The majority of Australians think this is too much. When ordinary wages are barely keeping up with the cost of living, there is no justification for any executive on the public payroll to continue to pocket obscene pay packets.

That's why The Greens will introduce a maximum wage of \$500,000 for senior executive roles in the public service, government agencies, universities and state owned corporations. That's a cap set at no more than 10 times the median annual income for people in NSW, which is just under \$50,000.¹

Senior executive roles that would be impacted by a maximum wage include:

University of Sydney Vice-Chancellor	\$1,445,000
Australian Catholic University Vice-Chancellor	\$1,300,000
UNSW Vice-Chancellor	\$1,247,500
UTS Vice-Chancellor	\$1,035,000
Macquarie University Vice-Chancellor	\$985,000

University of Wollongong Vice-Chancellor	\$905,000
Western Sydney University Vice-Chancellor	\$905,000
University of Newcastle Vice-Chancellor	\$875,000
Charles Sturt University Vice-Chancellor	\$757,000
University of New England Vice-Chancellor	\$735,000
Sydney Water Managing Director	\$786,582
Parramatta Council CEO	\$728,000
Sydney Trains CEO	\$695,000
Landcom CEO	\$600,531

Salary information gathered from 2017-2018 Annual Reports for relevant organisations.

See chart on page 3 for comparison between executive salaries and carer and service workers in their region.

WE ALL WORK HARD

CEOs and executives aren't working 78 times harder than the average worker.

We all know that it is ordinary, everyday workers who produce the majority of wealth in Australia. A cleaner on the minimum wage works just as hard as any CEO or executive. Parenting and care work is just as valuable to society as work done by CEOs or executives.

It's not fair that while university vice chancellors in NSW earn up to \$1.5 million, university educators earn a median of \$13,500 a year. Or, while the taxpayer-funded CEO of Sydney Water earns almost \$800,000 a year, the hardworking emergency services workers that keep him and his family safe earn less than \$70,000 a year and hospital workers earn only \$55,000.

It's time to acknowledge this and share the wealth more evenly.

STAGNATING WORKER WAGES

Executive salaries along with corporate profits are at record highs – while average households have less than they did a decade ago. An elite few at the top are raking it in while the rest of us do it tough.

In NSW, senior executives who draw salaries from public funds earn over ten times the median income. In the higher education sector, some vice chancellors earn more in a week than a casual member of their staff does in an entire year.

There is no justification for this. Executive salaries paid for with public funds should be no more than ten times the median income. Ordinary Australians are doing it tough while those at the top get pay rises equal to almost a full years' income.

The executive of Sydney Trains earns almost \$700,000 a year after receiving a \$40,000 pay rise. This is same executive who stood against ordinary train workers that were asking for increased pay, better rights and conditions.

At the University of Sydney and University of NSW, the vice chancellors each earn more than \$1.2 million every year, while directly overseeing a mass casualisation of the universities workforce, staff cuts and forced redundancies.

TAXPAYER FUNDS LINING EXECUTIVE POCKETS

Public funds should never be used to dole out obscene salaries to an elite few – often the very same people who are urge staff cuts and cuts to wages and conditions.

If we want to live in a more equal society – and to be able to fund our public services properly – we cannot go on creating worse levels of inequality. We need to reign in pay for those at the top and tie it to workers' salaries.

The Greens believe that it's the public servants who care for us when we're sick, keep our trains running, fix our roads, protect us in emergencies and teach our kids who deserve more in their pay packet for the essential work they do.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: COMPARISON OF PUBLICLY-FUNDED CEO SALARIES TO MEDIAN WORKER WAGES IN THEIR REGION

Region (Statistical Area 4)	Key CEO	Salary	Median wage: Public order, safety and regulatory services	Median wage: Preschool and school education	Median wage: Tertiary education	Median wage: Hospitals	Median wage: Medical and other health care services
Sydney – City and Inner South	University of Sydney Vice-Chancellor	\$1,445,000	60,549	53,416	20,992	58,192	45,938
Sydney – North Sydney & Hornsby	ACU Vice-Chancellor	\$1,300,000	79,380	38,887	18,306	54,277	43,237
Sydney – Eastern Suburbs	UNSW Vice-Chancellor	\$1,247,500	62,458	39,071	19,036	61,369	46,595
Sydney – City and Inner South	UTS Vice-Chancellor	\$1,035,000	60,549	53,416	20,992	58,192	45,938
Sydney - Ryde	Macquarie University Vice-Chancellor	\$985,000	70,475	47,063	16,684	55,384	44,026
Illawarra	University of Wollongong Vice-Chancellor	\$905,000	73,804	50,473	12,751	52,031	45,355
Sydney – Parramatta	Western Sydney University Vice-Chancellor	\$905,000	49,080	48,821	14,346	54,444	43,181
Newcastle & Lake Macquarie	University of Newcastle Vice-Chancellor	\$875,000	59,062	47,598	12,244	50,976	46,777
Central West	Charles Sturt University Vice-Chancellor	\$757,000	42,126	43,615	10,576	55,662	45,628
New England and North West	University of New England Vice-Chancellor	\$735,000	49,061	42,502	15,693	51,718	43,325

Region (Statistical Area 4)	Key CEO	Salary	Median wage: Public order, safety and regulatory services	Median wage: Preschool and school education	Median wage: Tertiary education	Median wage: Hospitals	Median wage: Medical and other health care services
All Sydney regions	Sydney Water Managing Director	\$786,582	69,578	49,814	14,223	55,221	44,126
Sydney – Parramatta	Parramatta Council CEO	\$728,000	49,080	48,821	14,346	54,444	43,181
All Sydney regions	Sydney Trains CEO	\$695,000	69,578	49,814	14,223	55,221	44,126
NSW	Landcom CEO	\$600,531	64,821	47,042	13,573	53,692	43,743

Source: ABS 6160.0 - Jobs in Australia, 2011-12 to 2015-16 - 6160.0 Table 3.1 EMPLOYEE JOBS, Number of jobs and Employee income per job, Statistical area level 4 by Industry sub-division (2015-16)

¹According to the ABS the median estimate for employee income in NSW is \$49,256.