

Statement by the Deputy Governor

Mr Speaker on behalf of the Civil Service I offer profound thanks to the Premier, Deputy Premier and all members of the Government for their support and approval of the salary increases outlined by the Premier. I also wish to thank the Opposition for their support.

Mr Speaker in challenging times leaders are required to make difficult decisions, decisions that may not be popular with everyone but are the right decision at the right time. Mr Speaker that is exactly what the Government has done today in awarding the salary increases.

Mr Speaker these awards demonstrate to our hard working civil servants that their leaders both elected and non-elected care about them and their families. We require our civil servants to perform at their best every day to provide the world class services that our customers deserve. However, we understand that providing that high level of service can be challenging when they are worried about their ability to feed their families and pay bills.

Mr Speaker the salary increases puts extra money in the hands of civil servants who need it most when they need it and delivers on a promise to increase the salary for staff below grade D.

Mr Speaker we would have loved to give a much larger COLA, however we are under a duty to be fiscally responsible in all that we do. Mr Speaker in these uncertain times and the global challenges that confront us we must show restraint with our spending. To this end Mr Speaker, I am pleased to advise that these salary increases will be funded from within the existing HR Budget.

Mr Speaker I close by once again, thanking the Government for their support for the Civil Service.