



Community & Public Sector Union
Civil Service Association of WA

MEDIA RELEASE

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Civil Service Association of WA Inc

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Where is the money going?

The Barnett Government should know more about what is happening to \$600million earmarked for community sector funding.

In a parliamentary committee this week it was revealed the government was not sure if the money was flowing through to staff despite it being set aside in the 2011-12 budget to improve salaries and services.

Community and Public Sector Union/Civil Service Association Branch Secretary Toni Walkington said this news would be a slap in the face to the thousands of public sector employees who were now preparing to operate with two percent cutbacks in the next financial year and further one per cent cutbacks in following years.

This is on top of the three per cent budget cutbacks in the 2009-10 financial year.

"Whatever savings the government is going to make with the cutbacks announced last week by Treasurer Christian Porter will be absorbed by the new model that by the sounds of it is still being developed," Ms Walkington said.

"We are not even sure what the new plan means and it is an outrage that the government can consider the size of next financial year's cuts, yet they can spend \$600million on something that is not being monitored."

Ms Walkington said the government would be better off maintaining and supporting government agencies already struggling to meet demand.

"Why can't they put the money into the public dental service that is underfunded and understaffed or maybe into the tourism industry that is at breaking point after Tourism WA lost nearly 40 per cent of its full-time equivalent employees in 2010.

"Then we have the Disability Services Commission that will soon be forced to abandon more than 250 families who have adults with disabilities with 34 Community Social Trainer positions earmarked to go."

FOR COMMENT:

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