

Civil Service Conciliation and Arbitration Scheme

General Council Report 1385

(Meeting/s of 28 March 2001, 30 May 2001, 25 July 2001)

Claim that Supervisory, Higher Duty, Franking, Machine, Switchboard, Keyholding, Driving and Fork-Lift allowances payable to members of F.U.G.E.be increased.

CIVIL SERVICE CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION SCHEME

General Council Report No. 1385

Claim for an increase in the supervisory, paperkeeper duties, franking, machine, switchboard, keyholding, driving and fork-lift allowances payable to members of FUGE

(Meetings of 28 March, 30 May and 25 July 2001)

1. The Staff Side said they were seeking increases in these allowances because staff were unwilling to take on these additional duties given the low level of the current allowances. They said that the duties in question carried certain responsibilities which were not being adequately rewarded at present.

2. The Official Side pointed out that this was a cost increasing claim given the large numbers of staff covered by it. They also said that these allowances had been revised in 1999 and that a further revision was not warranted at this stage. However, the Official Side agreed to have discussions outside of Council to consider certain cases where the Staff Side said that specific difficulties existed.

3. During these discussions the Staff Side pointed out that the conditions governing the driving allowance, as well as the level of the allowance, did not reflect modern circumstances. Driving official vehicles had become a more stressful and demanding duty especially because of the congested traffic conditions in the Dublin area. The duty had also extended to driving minibuses and "people carriers" as well as goods vehicles. The Staff Side gave a number of recent examples where Departments had been unable to find Services Officers willing to carry out this duty because of these circumstances. The Staff Side also said that the responsibility attached to holding the keys of official buildings was not adequately reflected by the level of the keyholders allowance.

4. The Official Side said that they were prepared to revise the driving and keyholding allowances, on the following basis, in full and final settlement of the claim:

Driving Allowance

An allowance of £30 per week, with effect from 1 June 2001, for those engaged on driving duties on a daily or full-time basis. Half of this allowance would be payable to staff assigned to driving duties but who are not required to drive on a daily basis. The previous daily rate would be abolished.

Keyholders Allowance

An allowance of £20.50 per week, with effect from 1 June 2001, for staff who are required to carry keys of official buildings on a 24-hour, seven-day basis.

5. The Staff Side said the offer was acceptable to them. At the meeting on 25 July 2001, the Council agreed to recommend acceptance of the agreement.

6. This Report accordingly records such agreement and was adopted on 25 July 2001.

Recording Agreement

This report was adopted on 25 July 2001