

Civil Service Conciliation and Arbitration Scheme

General Council Report 1421

(Meeting/s of 27 March 2002, 29 May 2002, 26 June 2002, 29 January 2003)

Special Leave arrangements for volunteer helpers for the Special Olympics 2003.

1. The Staff Side put forward a claim at General Council for special leave with pay for civil servants acting as unpaid volunteers for the Special Olympics which take place in Ireland in 2003.
2. The Official Side considered this claim and offered that civil servants who wish to volunteer would be facilitated as far as possible through release on special leave without pay, provided their release was consistent with the exigencies of the public service and work of the Department/Office.
3. The Staff Side requested that further consideration be given to the request for paid special leave.
4. The Official Side could not agree to paid special leave, but offered as a "once off" concession for a unique event, that staff who are volunteers for the Special Olympics may accumulate a maximum of 5 days flexi leave, subject to usual requirements of the (local) flexi-time arrangements and to the presentation of an official document arising from their voluntary work. Corresponding arrangements may be applied, on an informal basis, in respect of staff to whom flexible working hours arrangements do not apply, but who are covered by the Conciliation and Arbitration Scheme. A letter will be issued to Personnel Officers to this effect.
5. Staff who are volunteers for the Special Olympics may also take unpaid special leave under the terms of Circular 2/76 in addition to any accumulated flexi leave.
6. This "once off" proposal was accepted by the Staff Side.

This report recording agreement was adopted on 29 January 2003.

Report, recording agreement.

This report was adopted on 29 January 20003