

CFMEU

CONSTRUCTION

CFMEU CONSTRUCTION &
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Dear members,

Yesterday, the Fair Work Commission announced a special process for new CFMEU EBAs and the wages and conditions of construction workers. This process does not apply to any other industry and its workers.

The CFMEU is one of the best in the country – alongside our building and maritime unions – at bargaining and winning great wages and conditions for workers.

We have not wavered from a militant organising model. We have always negotiated EBAs and never settle for the minimum Award. Yes, we bargain. Yes, we strike. This is not coercion – this is workers expressing their collective power. This is unionism.

On average, a construction worker is over \$1,000 better off every week under a CFMEU EBA compared to the Award minimum.

That's why the MBA and employer groups hate us so much: we, the workers, are effective at carving out a slice of capital.

After we have negotiated, voted on and signed new EBAs, the FWC will now apply an additional level of scrutiny to CFMEU EBAs.

I have no doubt that we pass the test with a perfect score on your wages and conditions being better than the Award minimum. That's why we get so much attention – for better or worse.

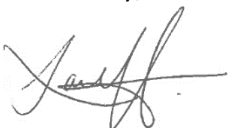
The CFMEU will always defend your right to bargain and vote for better wages and conditions. These new changes from the FWC won't stop us from signing new EBAs, finalising these agreements and making sure you get the pay rise you deserve. As always, I will keep you posted on any updates.

In this cost-of-living crisis, it would be indefensible to force the real wages of construction workers to go backwards.

Together, we will protect and advance the wages, conditions and safety of all construction workers.

The CFMEU is here to stay.

In solidarity,



Zach Smith
National Secretary
CFMEU (Construction and General Division)