



COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC
SECTOR UNION

SPSF GROUP NSW BRANCH
ABN 11 681 811 732

In Reply Please Quote AK: ndef CN 129532

19 January 2022

Professor Andrew Parfitt
Vice-Chancellor & President
University of Technology Sydney
ULTIMO NSW 2007

By email: andrew.parfitt@uts.edu.au

Dear Professor Parfitt,

The CPSU NSW is writing in relation to the recent decision by National Cabinet to exempt Higher Education workers from the need to isolate if they are a close COVID-19 contact and are asymptomatic.

This comes at a time where there are a growing number of cases in the community and Rapid Antigen Tests (RAT) are almost impossible to obtain. There are a growing number of staff across the higher education sector being struck down with Covid-19. To put those employees in a position where they could potentially infect vulnerable people with Covid-19, is a terrible and unnecessary burden to place on anyone.

Accordingly, the CPSU NSW seeks that University of Technology Sydney does not adopt the minimum isolation standards set out by Cabinet, but rather implement better infection controls than what is being recommended for the protection of all our members, their families and the members of the community they may come in contact with during their duties.

Workplace health and safety is always paramount, and at a time when a pandemic is ripping through our community, never has it been more so.

In addition, we remind the University that under *Clause 31 Personal Leave* of *The University of Technology Sydney Professional Staff Agreement 2018* that staff are entitled to paid leave, if a family/household member succumbs to COVID, and of course are entitled to paid sick leave if they have COVID-19.

The CPSU NSW seeks to continue to work with the University of Technology Sydney to ensure the good health and safety of all staff and clients during this current outbreak

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Troy Wright'.

Troy Wright
BRANCH ASSISTANT SECRETARY

160 Clarence Street, Sydney NSW 2000 T 1300 772 679 W www.psa.asn.au
GPO Box 3365, Sydney NSW 2001 F (02) 9262 1623 E cpsu.nsw@psa.asn.au

The CPSU NSW is the Federal Counterpart of the Public Service Association of NSW. CPSU NSW members are also members of the PSA.