## NEWS RESPONSE - EDITORIAL REVIEW NO. 10: THE VICTORIAN CFA DISPUTE

ABC News welcomes the review's finding that its coverage of the dispute "was generally professional and often compelling" and in accordance with the ABC's editorial policies and guidelines. We particularly note the praise for the daily coverage of the dispute produced by the Melbourne newsroom, current affairs teams and the digital team who prepared background and "explainer' articles for ABC News Digital.

The review also identified one clear failing to provide a diversity of perspectives in the online Analysis and Opinion pages of ABC News Digital and suggested a number of areas where the reviewer believed there were gaps or missed opportunities in the coverage. ABC News accepts that publishing a strongly expressed and partial opinion piece in the Analysis and Opinion section, which attacked the Victorian government's position on the dispute without a balancing article, was an oversight. A contributing factor may have been that the dispute ran across a period of transition in the management of the Analysis and Opinion section.

While complimenting the background and explainer articles that were published, the reviewer notes that in-depth explanation of the contents of the EBA at the centre of the dispute was lacking. ABC News agrees that there is considerable potential for News Digital to provide analysis and explanation of complex aspects of ongoing news stories such the CFA dispute.

ABC News also notes the reviewer's comments in relation to state-based TV current affairs. As part of its efforts to enhance the breadth and depth of local coverage, the ABC's metropolitan newsrooms are delivering quality, original content across all platforms as news happens, rather than during one weekly slot in the television schedule.