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Tēnā koe Roger

Consideration of circumstances of people made redundant in public sector job cuts

Government ordered spending cuts will see several thousand public service workers lose their jobs and incomes over coming months. Coming as this does at a time of increasingly high cost of living, this will place many under considerable financial pressure. Many of these people, our members, will be customers of your member banks. Loss of jobs and incomes will mean they may not be able to make mortgage and other repayment requirements.

Many New Zealanders are under considerable financial pressure at this time. Those facing redundancy in public sector jobs are not unique, however the combination of the scale of these job cuts, the concentrated timeframes and the concurrent reduction in alternative available jobs for re-employment is unprecedented and will create a perfect storm for some people.

We are seeking the Association's support on behalf of our members and ask you to issue guidance to your members about taking the context of the cuts into account when dealing fairly and in good faith with affected people. This could include taking flexible and lenient approaches to those struggling because of loss of income including by offering interest holidays and interest only periods with no penalty.

Yours sincerely

Kerry Davies PSA national secretary

