



# AFPA BULLETIN FOR ALL MEMBERS

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## AFP TRAVEL POLICY SHORT CHANGES MEMBERS

The Australian Federal Police Association welcomes the move by the Australian Federal Police from a cumbersome acquittal process to a per diem rate to compensate AFP employees for the cost of meals and incidentals when traveling but believes the rate is too low.

This is a matter that we wished to be addressed in agreement negotiations and we had a tacit understanding from the AFP that they would take this direction.

However, setting the per diem rate at \$85 for domestic travel is too low in 2007. Not only is it actually lower than the rate enjoyed by Uniform Protection and Aviation members – \$88.55, a rate that was set under the previous collective agreement – but it is well below the rates of allowance enjoyed by other Commonwealth agencies.

The AFPA understands from a variety of sources that the advised rate of allowance for meals and incidentals is close to \$100, with some agencies that do frequent travel providing a higher rate of allowance for meals and incidentals.

This makes sense as adjusting the rate of allowance for PSOs by actual movements in the cost of living would raise the level of this allowance to \$95 - \$100 per day.

The AFPA urges the AFP to rethink the level at which they propose to compensate these travel costs and pay their employees at the level other Government employees would enjoy in 2007.

The simplest and fairest solution would be to set this allowance at \$100 a day. For an organization that expects its members to be able to respond to emerging priorities at short notice this is a small price to pay.

This is the position that we have suggested to AFP management and will be suggesting again now that they have made their position on this issue public.

To not make this adjustment is an effective shortchanging of members.

**If you have any concerns about the issues in this bulletin or other industrial queries please contact your local representatives or the AFPA National Office on [afpa.industrial@afpa.org.au](mailto:afpa.industrial@afpa.org.au) for more information.**