

For immediate release, Monday June 3

Paul Howes joins Seven News as political commentator

Paul Howes has entered an exclusive television partnership with Seven News to join its on-air political commentary team this election year.

The agreement is aligned with Paul's role as National Secretary of The Australian Workers' Union, and will see him join Seven's flagship breakfast program Sunrise as a political commentator from early June and Seven News as a key member of its election night panel on September 14.

Also joining him on the panel will be former Victorian Premier and Liberal leader Jeff Kennett.

Paul - who writes a column in Australia's biggest selling newspaper The Sunday Telegraph -brings to the role more than a decade of union experience.

Seven Network's National Director of News Rob Raschke said: "It's great to have Paul with us throughout the next four months as we build towards the nation's biggest event.

"Paul's experience not only as a union leader but as a political commentator, author and columnist - combined with Jeff Kennett's political expertise - will give Seven viewers an informed perspective on the federal election."

Paul added: "I'm really looking forward to being part of the Seven team.

"This year's election will be a pivotal moment in our nation's history so I'm keen to bring whatever insights and perspective I have on it to Seven viewers. And someone needs to keep Jeff in check."

Born in Sydney's Blue Mountains, Paul left school at 14 and became active in his workplace as a union delegate.

In 2005, he was the youngest person in the history of the Australian Worker's Union to be elected National Vice President. Two years later, then 26, he was elected National Secretary.

Paul was elected Vice President of the Australian Council of Trade Unions in 2008. He is a member of the National Executive of the Australian Labor Party and represents the Asia-Pacific Region as a member of the Executive Committee of the IndustriALL - Global Union.

Paul is Deputy Chair of the nation's largest superannuation fund, AustralianSuper. He is also a director of The McKell Institute and a member of a number of Government Boards.

Payment made to Paul Howes by Seven News will be paid to The Australian Workers' Union.

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