



Queensland Branch

Bus Circular

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Dear Member,

Bus E-News: EBA Bargaining Update 6

The all Union EBU met with Brisbane City Council again last week for round six, (13 December 2016), of bargaining.

This is the last EBU meeting for the year, with the first of 2017 scheduled to take place on 17 January.

Council came back to the Unions on a range of issues that had previously been tabled.

The unions want Domestic Violence leave to form part of the new agreement so that members can easily view their entitlements. Council has not agreed to place it in the EBA. Talks will continue on better equality of casual access to DV Leave during negotiations.

Council tabled the HRP 027 Superannuation Procedure. The reply from council about Salary sacrifice for mortgages was that there was no advantage because of Fringe Benefit Tax and their status as an employer.

When it comes to equal treatment for Superannuation contributions, their policy it states that casual and temporary staff receive 9%, even though this was updated in Oct 2013 and the minimum contribution is 9.5%.

Council also tabled a number of clauses that they claim are obsolete and should be removed from the agreement.

Consultation negotiations continue. Council will provide unions with copies of all HR Procedures. Council did offer to amend 8.6.1 to read, Council shall notify in writing.

Council provided the change to travel arrangement they propose. Council claims these are better arrangements than current ones. Currently there are 9 different arrangements, which council would like to reduce to one. BT is not included in this proposal. Unions will consider this offer and come back in the New Year.

Schedule Meetings: Most if not all unions should have had at least one schedule meeting as of this date.

As always your Delegate is the best source of information on the current state of negotiations.

Unity is Strength

Tom Brown
Secretary, Tram and Bus Division