



Queensland Branch

Bus Circular

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Dear Member,

Bus E-News: EBA 9 Schedule 10 Negotiations

Last week the RTBU met with Council to discuss Schedule 10 claims. That is claims related to bus drivers and our members in the garages.

Matters that were discussed in a broad sense were our claims for real engagement in roster development, and greater ability to take leave when we want it.

We asked Council questions about their roster construction techniques, what systems were used and how fatigue was measured. We discussed ways that the drivers could be more involved and will develop this further in the New Year.

We asked them how they planned for leave and what methods were used. We were advised that this was done at the depot level, which explains why the number of leave requests denied is greater at some depots. We want a fair method put in place across the network to ensure members get leave when they apply and are not forced to take leave when they don't want it.

We also discussed our claim for concrete measures to improve the safety of our members. We relayed to Council that the rise in the number of assaults against drivers is a major concern to our members. We are sick of being exposed to these levels of driver abuse in our workplace. We see other council workplaces with high levels of security and all we want is to be treated the same.

Council raised some concern with a previous circular where we suggested they were proposing a drug and alcohol policy. In a confusing statement of sorts, they said they were considering one, but weren't proposing it. They were instead responding to a proposal from a smaller union in a different area of Council. We will have to wait and see what Council propose in the New Year.

Negotiations will resume on 27 January 2017 and again on 3 February 2017.

Unity is Strength

Tom Brown

Secretary, Tram and Bus Division