



Queensland Branch

Bus Circular

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Dear Member,

Bus E-News: EBA Bargaining Update 9

The Unions have relayed their response to Council with regard to their offer made 31 January in relation to matters discussed in negotiations so far.

The response does not deal with schedules 8-11 as these are subject to separate ongoing discussions. Some of the proposals in Council's offer were marked as not requiring further discussion but the unions' view is that in negotiations nothing is certain until a full agreement is reached.

The Unions united position on the wage increase offer by Council is that it is inadequate. We are also united in the view that a four year term is too long and three years remains our preference.

In relation to wages our members seek a wage increase which recognises the flexibility currently delivered by the workforce and the productivity gains which the Council has made and which continue. From an economic point of view, the increases proposed by Council would only contribute to economic sluggishness.

Decent pay rises along the lines that Unions have suggested, together with the confidence which the sharper focus on permanent employment our proposals would bring will give EBA9 the edge that BCC should be looking for.

The proposed blanket changes to notice for roster changes and night work are rejected. Unions are prepared to discuss changes to specific areas but not generally as Council propose.

The next meeting is scheduled for 14 February 2017. We will keep members updated, but your depot delegate remains your best source of information on the negotiations.

Unity is Strength

Tom Brown
Secretary, Tram and Bus Division