



Queensland Branch

Bus Circular

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Dear Member,

Bus E-News: EBA Bargaining Update 13

Unions met with Brisbane City Council yesterday to progress bargaining.

Council announced that their previous lead negotiator Greg Evans had departed Council and would now be replaced by Paul Salvati, Executive Manager – Brisbane Lifestyle.

We took the opportunity to revisit the position of Council and Unions on the logs of claim items which had previously been considered. There are several log items, many of them repeated from similar claims made across many unions.

No significant progress was made yesterday in terms of landing any major issues, but we have a clearer picture of the items which are still agreed to be negotiable. Council has indicated that they have some issues they don't wish to progress further or address at all. That's not unusual, but naturally, it's not the last word.

It's not up to Council to dictate whether something won't be in an agreement – we are negotiating and there are still a number of means by which we can press our claims which have not yet been brought to bear. We will continue to press claims which our members have sought to be resolved in this negotiation.

It's worth reminding members that it's a good time to have up to date details with your union so we can ensure smooth communication. Members are urged to update email addresses, postal addresses and any phone numbers which may be out of date. Contact your union office on 3839 4988, or visit the union website for further details.

We had some broad discussion around one of the key union claims of increasing employment security through greater job security measures. The discussion sought to clarify at first where the issues are for each employment group. For some, it's the fact there's too much use of casual employment, for others it's the overuse of labour hire. This is an important discussion because without secure, reliable jobs, none of the other conditions mean much. We look forward to progressing this item further.

We have several meetings planned for both the central all union bargaining team, as well as for the occupational/area specific streams.

Your delegate is the best source of bargaining related news. We will continue to update members on progress.

Unity is Strength

Tom Brown
Secretary, Tram and Bus Division