



BUS E-NEWS

RTBU

QUEENSLAND BRANCH

Circular No: 148/2016

Date: 23 June 2017

Dear Member,

Update: EBA 9 - VOTE YES for Protected Industrial Action

In order to get a better deal for bus drivers the Union advocates voting **YES** for protected industrial action in the upcoming RTBU ballot. Council's latest offer does not address many of the matters we brought to the table on behalf of drivers and bus assistants several months ago now. It's interesting to note that it has taken over seven months for Council to concede that employees have a right to privacy and remove the requirement to put the nature of the illness on a medical certificate. Who knows how the negotiations would have proceeded if they had recognised this right earlier. It is also interesting to note that Council's pay rise has increased twice since their original offer of 1.7%. The current offer still runs over 4 years with only 2% this year.

We need to keep the pressure on by voting **YES** to use our right to take protected industrial action in order to get Transport for Brisbane to recognise and address the outstanding issues of bus drivers and our bus assistants who work under appalling conditions in the garages. Some of these issues are:

- Concrete measures for driver safety
- Accelerated progression through the levels. Currently it takes 9 years to reach the top pay rate
Way too long
- Better pay for drivers and bus assistants
- Better arrangements for casuals
- A better deal for trainees
- Improve bus assistants conditions
- Raised allowances
- Change the Stand Alone Time clause to be fairer to drivers
- Drivers should not lose their blue spot when they have been sick

A **yes vote** will allow us to continue to press for these fair claims and a better pay offer.

Unity is Strength

Tom Brown
**Secretary, Tram & Bus Division,
RTBU Qld Branch**