



QUEENSLAND BRANCH

RTBU MEDIA RELEASE

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Reminder to Staff Regarding Political & Union Material

Late yesterday afternoon Brisbane City Council Management flooded workplaces with a letter declaring that bus drivers could be disciplined for receiving, distributing or displaying of political (and Union) material. This is directly related to a campaign which is now impacting on the State Government against the proposed privatisation of the Brisbane bus operations. The RTBU State Secretary, Owen Doogan, said, "the RTBU campaign appears to be hurting the Government when their LNP colleagues in Council determines to take such outrageous steps to intimidate ordinary bus drivers".

It is even more bizarre for an employer to do this when any such action would be in breach of Government's own legislation namely the Anti-Discrimination Act 1991 as well as the Federal Anti-Discrimination Legislation. Owen Doogan, said "our members will not be intimidated by this action and we call upon the Queensland Government and their colleagues in Brisbane City Council to abide by their own legislation and stop bullying workers when campaigns are running against them".

The Costello Report provided that ideology should come first when delivering services to the Brisbane public and is seeking for the tendering out of all bus operations in Brisbane. The Transport Minister's advisors briefed the RTBU this year that it is their intention to follow through with this recommendation after the election next year.

The RTBU has commenced a campaign against these proposals in an attempt to protect jobs of approximately 2,500 bus drivers and other operations staff employed by Brisbane City Council.

Owen Doogan, said "the success of the campaign to date has been confirmed by the LNP Government and their colleagues in Brisbane City Council by the panicked attempts at intimidation of the Brisbane City Council bus drivers and other staff".

This contemptuous action is yet another example of why Queenslanders kept the LNP were in opposition for 22 years.

STAFF



Reminder to staff regarding Political and Union material

To all bus operators and BT staff,

Please be advised that it is not appropriate for any Council employee, including BT staff, to become involved in the receipt, distribution or display of political material of any kind. To do so would be a breach of the Employee Code of Conduct and may, if proven, cause the employee to be subject to disciplinary action for breach of the Code of Conduct

As Council is a public organisation, this policy helps us create and maintain a workforce free for bias, prejudice and discrimination.

Thank you for your understanding and please contact myself or your team leader if you require further clarity.

Christian Kittel
Acting Chief Operating Officer
Brisbane Transport

21 August 2014

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