

MEDIA RELEASE

Mayoral Candidates Will Be Asked To Commit!

18 SEPTEMBER 2013

The Services Union, which represents Queensland local government workers, is looking forward to the upcoming elections for the reformed Noosa, Livingstone, Mareeba and Douglas Councils on the 9 November 2013.

The Services Union has been working closely with members in de-amalgamating Councils ensuring appropriate employment safeguards and decent and transparent transition arrangements are put in place for affected workers.

Acting Secretary of The Services Union Jennifer Thomas said, it has been a lengthy process.

"We are still currently working with the Sunshine Coast, Rockhampton, Cairns and Tablelands Councils with the final transition arrangements," Ms Thomas said.

"It has been a very concerning time for workers, considering there was only five broad points laid out in the State Government's Regulation relating to the transferal of employees and we have worked hard to ensure there will be as little impact on workers as possible."

"This has been difficult with the existing four councils having to restructure as a consequence of de-amalgamation. Members not captured by de-amalgamation are concerned about job security as they move through the council restructure."

"Our aim after the de-amalgamation process is finalised is to ensure workers are provided with ongoing job security including fair wages and working conditions."

"Our members are proud workers of their local community who want to continue to deliver the very best services their communities deserve," Ms Thomas said.

The Services Union will arrange to meet and lobby Mayoral candidates when announced, to voice any concerns around employment issues and the delivery of services to local communities.

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TRADING AS
THE SERVICES UNION

ACTING SECRETARY:
Jennifer Thomas
ACTING ASSISTANT
SECRETARY:
Neil Henderson

"We look forward to meeting with all candidates," Ms Thomas said.

"All communities who voted for de-amalgamation voiced loudly they wanted their own local Council staffed by local employees. Therefore, we will be calling on Mayoral candidates to commit to maximising permanent employment and minimising redundancies when the new Councils of Douglas, Mareeba, Livingstone and Noosa come into effect on the 1 January 2013."

"Reducing staff in these councils will hurt the community if services are not maintained. A reduction in staff will also impact the local economy, as they will no longer have an income to spend in local businesses because they may leave the area in search of suitable employment," Ms Thomas said.

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

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