

# MEDIA RELEASE

## Neil Henderson - Secretary of The Services Union - in Rockhampton To Talk About The Election!

14 MARCH 2016

With the Local Government Election just around the corner, Secretary of the Services Union Neil Henderson will be visiting Rockhampton tomorrow, (Tuesday, 15 March 2016) to speak with local workers about the need to vote wisely on Saturday, 19 March 2016.

Employees at Council have had to fight hard to protect their conditions over the last couple of years to ensure future employees were not disadvantaged due to the previous State Government's Industrial Relations laws. Conditions for Council workers are also very uncertain due to a current Award review.

"The Services Union has sought commitments from Rockhampton Regional Council candidates about protecting existing employment conditions for all current and future employees at Council through collective bargaining. However, not all candidates have committed to doing this," Mr Henderson said.

"Council workers in Rockhampton are local people who deliver essential services to their community. They look after the region's roads, help in natural disaster situations and keep our libraries open."

"The Council is at the heart of the Rockhampton community and the outcome of the upcoming Election is extremely important as it has the potential to reshape the local region," Mr Henderson said.

"This is why we sought commitments from candidates about ensuring future employment conditions and developing new conditions through collective bargaining which address the issues of Natural Disaster and Domestic and Family Violence for all our members who work in Rockhampton."

"We also want Rockhampton to be a sustainable community and we have asked candidates to support renewable energy initiatives, job security for local people with a focus on job creation initiatives including traineeships and apprenticeships."

"With unemployment at over 10 per cent in Rockhampton, all of our members in all industries in the region need confidence that future Councillors will support working conditions and regional job growth," Mr Henderson said.

"That's why I am visiting Rockhampton on Tuesday so I can discuss further these issues with local workers who will have an opportunity to elect a Council which will be focussed on achieving these outcomes."

**NEIL HENDERSON WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEWS IN FRONT  
OF ROCKHAMPTON TOWN HALL, BOLSOVER STREET,  
MIDDAY TUESDAY, 15 MARCH 2016.**

... ENDS

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

Belinda Hogan-Collis, Media/Communications Officer on 07 3010 4446 or 0401 710 039.

W [theservicesunion.com.au](http://theservicesunion.com.au)

P 07 3844 5300  
F 07 3846 5046

AUSTRALIAN MUNICIPAL,  
ADMINISTRATIVE, CLERICAL  
AND SERVICES UNION QUEENSLAND  
(SERVICES  
AND NORTHERN ADMINISTRATIVE)  
BRANCH  
ABN 86 351 665 653

TRADING AS  
THE SERVICES UNION

BRANCH SECRETARY:  
Neil Henderson  
ASSISTANT BRANCH SECRETARY:  
Jennifer Thomas