

9 DECEMBER 2014

MEDIA RELEASE

Sunshine Coast Regional Council Employees VOTE NO to EBA Agreement!

Employees at Sunshine Coast Regional Council (SCC) have overwhelmingly voted NO to Council management's proposed agreement which reduced conditions and attacked a predominately female section of the workforce.

71% voted NO
29% voted YES

In what The Services Union described as the worst Enterprise Bargaining Agreement (EBA) offer in Queensland Local Government thus far, the result also reflects the lack of respect Council Management has shown to its staff and its lack of sincerity in the negotiation process.

Assistant Secretary of The Services Union, Jennifer Thomas said the result should make many things very clear to Council management!

"They need to take a strong look at this result that indicate the majority of employees want to retain current conditions and they are also not in favour of a two tier wage system which creates a second class workplace," Ms Thomas said.

"The 2.3 per cent pay rise is not sufficient and employees want the security that the Consumer Price Index (CPI) provides should it be greater than the wage increase offered in a proposed EBA."

"Employees have also voted against the restructure of certain levels of employment, predominately filled by women because they believe women should be paid equally, unlike management!"

"Finally, employees demand genuine negotiations not the negative changes of the modernised Award and the State Governments work choices reforms forced on them, plus extras," Ms Thomas said.

"Employees know Council has other options open to it that are fairer and show employees are truly valued by Council."

Council advised at the third and final meeting should their proposed document be voted down then future EBA negotiations would need to occur in the New Year from mid to late January 2015.

The Services Union look forward to meeting and having detailed and transparent discussions with Council Management at this time.

... ENDS

W 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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

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