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MEDIA RELEASE

The Services Union to Watch Possible Local Government De - Amalgamation

The Services Union which represents thousands of Local Government workers across Queensland will be watching very carefully the State Government's consideration of possible de-amalgamation of Douglas, Isis, Livingstone, Mareeba and Noosa Councils.

The Minister for Local Government David Crisafulli has referred the five proposals to the Boundaries Commissioner, Col Meg who is now required to scrutinise the proposals and consult with the Queensland Treasury Corporation.

Secretary of The Services Union Kath Nelson said we do not have to look too far to see how the Newman Government believes that affected employees should be treated in a de-amalgamation exercise.

"Before the election Mr. Newman seemed to be comfortable with arrangements which provided for job security and fair processes to safeguard wages, conditions and employment arrangements," Ms Nelson said.

"Immediately after the election he legislated to remove those arrangements in relation to Allconnex Water and the affected workers without a second thought."

"The Services Union will be asking the State Government to ensure that appropriate employment arrangements are put in place before any de-amalgamation proceeds."

"We will also be asking the affected Councils to commit to the sort of decent employment safeguards which were put in place prior to the amalgamations occurring in the first place."

"We will also be calling on the affected to Councils to establish special consultation arrangements to ensure that Local Government employees are kept fully briefed in relation to the de-amalgamation process," Ms Nelson said

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