

# MEDIA RELEASE

## The Services Union in Dispute with Gladstone Regional Council

1 AUGUST 2018

The Services Union which represents members at Gladstone Regional Council has today filed a dispute in the Queensland Industrial Relations Commission (QIRC) over the Council's handling of the current redundancy and redeployment process.

The Union believes the Council has not taken all reasonable steps to minimise the negative impacts on affected staff that are facing uncertainty and termination of employment in a tight economy.

Secretary of The Services Union Neil Henderson said it is disappointing that it has been necessary to lodge a dispute with the QIRC but after weeks of trying to resolve a number of issues with the Council, the Union has been left with no other choice.

"The Council is required to meet their obligations under the Certified Agreement regarding the restructures that have been taking place. Unfortunately there has been massive failings on the Council's part," Mr Henderson said.

"Our Union also has some major concerns particularly around consultation around this whole process."

"Despite continually asking questions of the Council, we have not received the answers."

"The approach taken by the Council has resulted in very capable and qualified employees losing their jobs and this has absolutely destroyed morale in this workplace."

"The Council claims it wants to create a more attractive work environment but their approach will achieve the complete opposite."

"They are losing good staff and have lost over 500 years of experience in the last month alone."

"We have written to the Council this morning advising that we are in dispute and have requested an urgent discussion with the Chief Executive Officer to seek a resolution as soon as possible," Mr Henderson said.

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