

8 OCTOBER 2018

# MEDIA RELEASE

## GLADSTONE REGIONAL COUNCIL - MASS UNION MEMBER MEETING DATE: Tuesday, 9 October 2018 TIME: 4:40 (for a 5pm Start) WHERE: Front Steps – Civic Centre – 101 Goondoon Street, Gladstone.

Hundreds of union members working at Gladstone Regional Council will be holding a Mass Meeting tomorrow in their campaign for a better Enterprise Bargaining Agreement (EBA) outcome and wages that keep up with the cost of living.

Details are above.

The Services Union and other unions have notified Council that members will be undertaking Protected Industrial Action (PIA) in pursuit of a better outcome.

Secretary of The Services Union, Neil Henderson said that employees had endured two years of wage freezes, extensive staffing cuts and a major restructure – these staff at Council deserve better.

"Employees at Gladstone Regional Council work hard each and every day to provide frontline services to their local community and at the same time have had to put up with a lot of disruption over the past two years," Mr Henderson said.

"This has been a long EBA negotiation period and although we have come far, there is still a way to go to finalise a fair agreement."

"Our members are stoic and have already indicated to Council management that they will continue to fight for an EBA which meets the cost of living standards."

"Tomorrow, members will vote on whether to take stop work action next week," Mr Henderson said.

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

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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  
EXECUTIVE PRESIDENT:  
Jennifer Thomas

Union members will wear blue ribbons as part of their industrial action as a historical symbol of solidarity.

"In 1891, striking shearers from Barcaldine wore blue ribbons in their fight for a fair deal and our members unfortunately have to do the same thing in 2018," Mr Henderson said.

"It is quite shameful when you think about it in these terms in that regional people are still fighting for a just wage and sustainable local employment almost 130 years later."

"It really is time for Council management to do the right thing."

"It's time to close the deal," Mr Henderson said.

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:  
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