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MEDIA RELEASE

Hinchinbrook Shire Council - Continue To Refuse A Pay Increase Which Keeps Up With The Cost Of Living!

10 MAY 2021

Members of The Services Union working at Hinchinbrook Regional Council are meeting on Wednesday, 12 May 2021 to discuss the next steps in their campaign for a fair Enterprise Bargaining Agreement (EBA).

Although promising to get back to the bargaining table in good faith, Council management recently decided to turn to the Queensland Industrial Relations Commission (QIRC) in relation to the EBA.

Secretary of The Services Union, Neil Henderson said, "Council employees deserve their pay increase."

"These are local people who work hard each day to deliver frontline services to the Hinchinbrook Shire area, yet Council management thinks its fine to offer wage increases they do not take into account the cost of living or reward for the productivity delivered in the workplace," Mr Henderson said.

"Our members have been filling servicing gaps due to a number of redundancies as well as being knocked back for trying to access any leave while at the same time watching Council refuse to negotiate a pay increase that keeps up with the cost of living."

"If Council is at all interested in supporting and growing the local community and the local rate payer base, they need to invest in their workforce."

"Put simply, if local workers don't get fair wage increases, they don't spend as much at local businesses," Mr Henderson said.

"A fair and decent wage increase will see that money will flow straight into the local community and businesses and help with the COVID economic recovery."

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