



IR laws update for depots

The union is currently visiting depots with the RTBU's senior campaign officer Maryanne Stuart to advise on the long-term strategy for dealing with the NSW government's unfair wage policy.

The union has already visited Willoughby, Port Botany, Brookvale and Ryde depots and have set the following time and dates for future visits:

- Kingsgrove depot September 5: 11.30am – 12.30am
- Leichhardt depot September 6: 9.30am – 11.30am
- Randwick depot September 7: 11.00am – 12.00pm

Make sure you come along to your depot's session to hear about what the new laws mean for our future negotiations.

Further locations and times to be announced soon so keep a look out on BusExpress for updates.

Drivers back paid as talks continue

The new interim Bus Operator Award was ratified on Friday, August 19, before Justice Staff at the Industrial Relations Commission.

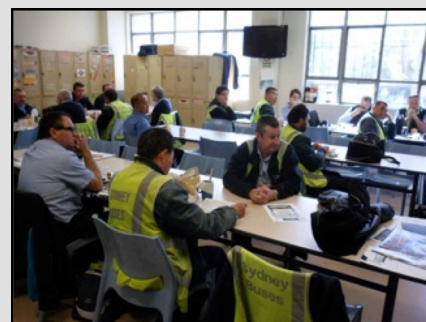
The award will see bus operators receive a 2.5% pay rise, back paid until June 12. This payment will go through in the off pay-week beginning August 31.

The union award negotiating team has already met with the STA in the hope that increases greater than 2.5% can be achieved.

We'll keep you updated on the progress of these negotiations through your local delegate.



Chris Preston and Maryanne Stewart talked with drivers about the new IR laws and what it means for drivers



Willoughby depot had a great turn out at the meeting. It was great to see so many people there!

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STA needs to get tough on rogue taxis

Drivers are reporting that an increasing number of taxis are stopping in and around bus stops. Not only does this slow buses down it's a safety issue for both drivers and their passengers.

STA inspectors previously had the power to book offending cars and taxis but drivers report they haven't seen any vehicles being booked recently.

As a result Divisional President Gary Way has written to the STA asking for clarification as to whether STA inspectors are still able to issue infringement notices.

If this is still possible, the union has urged the STA to deal with the growing problem by conducting a regular blitzes at bus stops, particularly in the city where the problem has become chronic.

In order to give the STA inspectors, council rangers and police a better idea of the location of the worst trouble spots, the union is urging drivers to make a note of the time and location of taxis stopping at bus stops, and to email the information to the union office, nswbus2@bigpond.com, or to call the office on 9319 7277.



Chris Preston and Gary Way

Uniform dispute update

The RTBU was back in court last week for the next steps in the Uniform Allowance Claim.

STA will have to formally respond to the claim by 9 September 2011 and then the union will file its evidence in the matter by the end of September. STA will file their evidence before the end of October.

The next court date is set for 26 October, where it is expected the Registrar will set a date for Conciliation before the Chief Industrial Magistrate.

The union will keep members up to date as the claim progresses.

Know your rights with Brett Peters



Section 77. Fatigue Management

77.2 No employee will be permitted to work more than 12 hours in any 24-hour period.

In other words you can not work more than 12 hours from any time one day to the same time the following day.

Divisional Vice President

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