

15/07/22

Dear Member,

Today we had another bargaining meeting with Busways.

At the moment, we're walking through the proposed Busways document and noting where we have issues. We're also flagging what the union would and wouldn't be prepared to accept on those points generally. That process should take up one more meeting.

What we're not doing yet is dealing with the nuts and bolt of each clause. Busways will come back to us on the points we've raised and outline generally what they want or can live with. Once we have each side's position we can systematically go through and nail down each clause in detail.

An example of this the 22% limit on casual and part-time employees. What the union is concerned with preventing is the casualisation of the workforce and protecting the work that sits in the full-time roster. On the other hand, part-time shifts in particular are important and members use them as a way of slowing down before retiring and avoiding rotating work so they can meet family commitments. Busways on the other hand doesn't want to have a limit on how they operate the business but have committed to prioritising full time work. Coming up with a way that meets everyone's needs in a binding way is challenging, but that's the task at hand.

Some of this work is items that most people won't be worried about but the Union needs to make sure are right- things like the Dispute Resolution Procedure, which governs what and how things are raised as disputes and potentially taken to the Fair Work Commission for arbitration.

The next meeting is scheduled for the 28th of August and a bulletin will follow that meeting.

In Solidarity,

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