

Summary of the Together Council Meeting

20 June 2014

Together Council met on Friday 20 June 2014. In attendance were the President, Secretary, Assistant Secretaries, delegates, and observers. Council met at the Mercure Hotel, North Quay Brisbane.

The meeting was chaired by President Vivienne Doogan who acknowledged the traditional owners of the land, the Turrbul and Yuggera peoples.

Current Political Environment

Delegates were briefed on the upcoming 2015 state election and how we as a union are approaching the election. Delegates were presented with polling data and briefed by the Secretary on the strategy for the political and community campaigns leading up to the next state election.

Putting Patients First Campaign

Assistant Secretary Kate Flanders gave a PowerPoint presentation in relation to the Putting Patients First Campaign, which will be a major focus leading up to the 2015 state election. Kate discussed our history in engaging with members and the broader community during election campaigns and how health is an important issue to the majority of the community.

Qantas Dispute

Delegates were briefed by the Acting Branch Assistant Secretary, Irene Monro, on the Qantas Dispute and how it is affecting our members and the community. A flyer was distributed and Council delegates were encouraged to sign it to support the campaign.

Life Membership

The President presented Peter Cattach with his Life Membership Certificate and badge.

Deputy Secretary Retirement

It was noted that the Deputy Secretary, Kevin Place, had retired and returned to South Australia.

Amalgamation

The Secretary briefed delegates on the continuation towards finalization of the integration of Together and the ASU. Council delegates were told that a number of decisions would need to be made at the September Council meeting including consideration of rules changes. Council delegates were advised that full documentation would be provided to Council delegates prior to the September meeting.

Lease on 27 Peel Street, South Brisbane

The Secretary spoke to the Heads of Agreement document between Together and United Voice (landlord) provided to Council delegates and highlighted key outcomes of the renewed lease. This includes a significant saving over the term of the lease. Executive has already endorsed the signing of the Heads of Agreement.

Financial matters

Together quarterly financial statements were received by the meeting. The Secretary briefed the Council on the service income and the planned mid-year budget review.

Industrial Committee

Delegates endorsed an industrial claim around outsourcing – with the claim aiming to maintain conditions for

members who might be moved from the State jurisdiction to the Federal Fair Work jurisdiction through outsourcing or sale.

Core Arbitration Committee

The President, Vivienne Doogan, gave a report noting the win in the Supreme Court and that we are waiting to see if the government will appeal the Supreme Court decision.

Community Engagement Committee

Delegates endorsed a statement by the committee outlining the types of organisations and causes the Community Engagement Committee can consider engagement with and examples of activities the committee may recommend.

Council Meeting Dates

Delegates were advised that the first Council meeting of 2015 is likely to be in February to ensure this fits timeframes of elections and integration. Delegates endorsed that the February 2015 Council meeting be held on a Saturday with the date to be confirmed by Executive and determined based on venue availability.

Annual General Meeting

The President advised that the starting time for the 2014 AGM needed to be changed to enable access to the venue. The Together AGM will now be held on Thursday 27th November at the QCU building, Level 2, 16 Peel St, South Brisbane - 5.30pm for a 5:45pm meeting commencement.

Delegate Motions

In response to a motion from a delegate, Council endorsed the principle of an independent review process for member complaints as part of the Union's *Complaints-Governance and Financial Management* policy. Council agreed the independent review should be conducted by an individual selected by Executive from an approved shortlist. Council further agreed that the Union's *Complaints-Governance and Financial Management* policy should be amended to reflect this process.