

V/LINE RAIL OPERATIONS

Bargaining Update #2

01 November 2019

Members,

Last week, a joint bargaining meeting with the Rail Division and Locomotive Division occurred to discuss joint claims for the V/Line EA.

Items discussed were:

Parental leave: The RTBU has a claim for what we see as the Rolls Royce of Parental Leave.

Amongst many things, it includes secondary carers leave of 8 weeks and Superannuation paid during the unpaid portion of primary carers leave. Whilst paying superannuation on unpaid leave seems odd it is specifically designed to help address the gender pay gap. While we at V/Line all get paid equally regardless of gender it is predominately women who take unpaid leave to raise the children, and they therefore end up with less superannuation because of this.

This is important in the context of legacy. A good unionist knows that you should always leave things in better condition than when you found them.

3-year agreement: The RTBU is seeking a 3-year agreement.

Purchase of Annual leave: The RTBU's claim is for an individual to be able to apply for up to 4 weeks extra annual leave, which is then approved by your manager. Payroll would then take a small amount out of your pay each fortnight to compensate for this. It should be clear that this is not an entitlement that must be approved by management, it will be subject to operational requirements.

Supplementary labour: This is extremely important to all members as it puts in place parameters that must be adhered to in the realm of using supplementary labour. The RTBU wants to see our current workforce upskilled and utilised rather than having V/Line bring in supplementary labour. A good workforce is multi skilled and one would imagine something that most people are on board with.

Flexible Working Arrangement: For those of you that are unaware a flexible working arrangement is an agreement between an Employer and Employee where if you have caring duties or are over 55 you can, with the agreement of V/Line reduce or change your hours. We have seen this work firsthand with members, and it can be life changing.

Bargaining is continuing weekly and we will continue to update members as it progresses. If anyone has any queries regarding the EA, please contact **Leonie Henderson on 0417 544 745**.

If you have any further queries don't hesitate to contact your Organiser, a member of the bargaining team or the RTBU Office on 8630 9100.

Joe Dennis
0403 863 869

Darren Galea
0407 512 494

Leonie Henderson
0417 544 745

rtbuvic.com.au
(03) 8630 9100

Level 2, 365 Queen Street, Melbourne, VIC 3000
E rtbu@rtbuvic.com.au | F 03 8630 9122

