



4 SEPTEMBER 2020

\$1250 One off Payment hits pay packets

Members will be aware from previous updates that United Workers Union have negotiated a one-off \$1250 payment from Government this year.

This payment has gone to all government employees who meet the criteria. [Click here for a Queensland Government FAQ about the payment](#) [pdf]

The payment would have been paid with the successful negotiation of the QAS EB in September this year had negotiations gone ahead as planned. Payslips available to staff this week include detail on this payment to hit accounts next week.

UWU participation on QAS RESPECT committee

United Workers Union welcomes the focus around inappropriate behaviour in the workplace by the QAS with the QAS RESPECT initiative. United Workers Union delegates are regularly advising staff around their right to a safe workplace which includes a zero-tolerance approach to Sexual Harassment.

United Workers Union representatives will participate in various ways to support the RESPECT initiative and encourage members to engage with the opportunities provided by these efforts. We understand that an EOI process will commence shortly for officers who wish to participate actively in this initiative, and we encourage members to step up to help shape the service you want to work in.

[Read more in the latest QAS Commissioner Update](#) [pdf]

UWU – GET THE FACTS

United Workers Union officials and delegates will be visiting stations around the state to provide info on a number of topics.

They'll discuss detail on future wage increases as a result of the current EB extension, efforts around maintenance of 40 hours training time, and all of the union benefits that members can be

taking advantage of – like Income Protection insurance, the online CPD platform, health insurance, professional indemnity insurance, access to Union Shopper (for discounts across a variety of purchases) and discounted legal advice around non work related matters.

Keep your eyes out for the schedule of meetings so you don't miss out in this important update.

QAS withdraws decision to stand down a paramedic without pay

QAS has suspended several paramedics with pay. The paramedics are subject to various individual investigations or disciplinary procedures. The paramedics are not permitted to attend work but are paid until their disciplinary process is completed. This is the usual process within QAS.

Recently, a paramedic who was suspended with pay was informed by QAS that they intended to change the paid suspension into an unpaid suspension, and that the paramedic would no longer be paid during the disciplinary process.

UWU objected to the QAS decision to cease paying our member while the investigation and disciplinary process was ongoing and there was no outcome. UWU then lodged an appeal to the QIRC on behalf of our member, and in response to the appeal, QAS withdrew their decision to stand the member down without pay.

The member is now still being paid, pending the outcome of the disciplinary process.

UWU members say that the principle of "innocent until proven guilty" should apply during investigations and disciplinary procedures, and if QAS are going to suspend members from work, then members should be paid.

Members should contact their union delegate as soon as any investigation or disciplinary procedures commence.

In Unity,

United Workers Union